

ARAB TIMES

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NEW DEALER IN TOWN!
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Woman fights

Stab back

ALBANY, New York, Sept. 19. (AP): A woman who was stabbed a half-inch (1.2 centimetres) from her heart plucked the knife out of her chest and stabbed the fleeing assailant in the back, police said.

The attacker got away, said police, who checked with hospitals to see if he sought treatment.

Tammis K. Groff, 37, was in critical condition this morning at Albany Medical Center hospital. She was stabbed last night in her house in Albany's fashionable Centre Square neighbourhood.

Police said the attacker had to climb a series of fences, some as high as 12 feet (4 metres), to reach the window he used to enter the house.

San Diego wins America's Cup

NEW YORK, Sept. 19. (Reuter): A New York state appeals court today declared San Diego the winner of the 1988 America's Cup, reversing a lower court decision which had disqualified the US boat and awarded yachting's premier trophy to New Zealand.

The appellate division of New York State Supreme Court said: "A declaration (is) made that San Diego's catamaran was an eligible yacht, that it was the winner of the two races held on Sept. 17th and 9th, 1988, for the America's Cup, and that San Diego ... is entitled to the America's Cup."

US lifts missile demand

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Secretary of State James Baker said today the United States will lift its demand for a ban on mobile missiles in an effort to boost strategic arms reduction talks.

Two days before he meets Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Wyoming, Baker also said Nato allies had reached agreement on measures to verify compliance with a new treaty on conventional arms and these would be presented in Vienna on Thursday.

In his first press conference at the State Department since taking office last January, he predicted progress on several areas in talks with Shevardnadze and rejected complaints the administration was acting timidly towards change in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Shevardnadze has made clear he wants to confer with Baker on scheduling a first summit between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and President George Bush. Baker said he anticipates a full discussion of this topic when the two ministers meet in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on Friday and Saturday.

Baker refused to say if he was actually prepared to set a date, reinforcing signals from the White House that the administration was in no hurry for a summit.

After criticism from Shevardnadze and domestic critics that the administration was letting momentum on arms control lag, Bush said yesterday his administration would be making proposals and Baker sought to provide some details.

Sleeping pill alert; it may kill, cripple

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Reports of bizarre side-effects, including a fatal shooting, hallucinations and amnesia, have triggered a safety review by the US Food and Drug Administration of the world's best-selling sleeping pill.

The drug is halcon, made by Upjohn Co. of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee is to meet on Friday to consider whether doctors and patients should be advised to limit its use, FDA officials said.

In one well-publicised case, a 58-year-old woman has charged in a lawsuit that taking the drug made her shoot and kill her 83-year-old mother with eight bullets to the head and neck from a .22-calibre revolver.

Tehran moves to end isolation

Riyadh link urged; October bid for full peace

NICOSIA, Sept. 19. (Agencies): A flurry of diplomatic activity in Tehran today appeared to indicate Iran was accelerating efforts to patch up relations with Gulf Arab neighbours and the West, seeking to end a decade-long isolation.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Francois Scheer, Director-General of the French Foreign Ministry, as saying two days of talks in Tehran were "fruitful and constructive."

Before leaving the Iranian capital, Scheer, the broadcast said, called

for regular diplomatic exchanges at short intervals beginning next month.

Irma, in a separate dispatch, reported that Italy's visiting Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Alberto Rossi announced his government's readiness for close co-operation with Iran in various economic and industrial fields.

Also today, President Hashemi Rafsanjani stressed Iran's willingness to expand its ties with the oil-rich Arab neighbours, while Rajai Khorassani, head of Parliament's foreign relations committee, reiterated that Iran should resume its severed diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

Khorassani's original call for a resumption of ties was made in a newspaper interview two weeks ago.

The foreign relations committee, which opposes such rapprochement, repudiated his call saying it "did not reflect" its views.

Irma said Rafsanjani made his comments at a meeting in Tehran today with the newly appointed Iranian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Mohamad Ali Hadi Najafabadi.

It quoted Rafsanjani as emphasizing Iran's willingness to further expand its relations with Muslims and neighbouring countries.

Rafsanjani expressed hope that Najafabadi, who enjoys what the agency called an "outstanding" revolutionary background, would work for improvement of ties and promotion of security in the region.

He was quoted as saying that the appointment of such a personality to the post was indicative of the importance Iran attaches to the southern Gulf littoral states.

Najafabadi has served as a member of Iran's Majlis, and was head of the foreign relations committee before Khorassani.

Hussein Sadeqi, director of Gulf Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, was appointed ambassador to Kuwait last week.

Rafsanjani also has spoken in favour of better relations with Saudi Arabia.

The influential Khorassani was quoted as telling the Majlis: "I still believe that we must have diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia and have reasons to support it."

Following the repudiation of his original call by his committee, Khorassani prefaced his latest remarks today by saying they were his "personal views," and Irma made it clear that having diplomatic ties did not entail full approval of another country's policies.

"If we have ties we can put forward our views and affect their political decisions," he said.

The UN special envoy for the Gulf, Jan Eliasson, will begin a shuttle mission between Iran and Iraq in late October to try to revive stalled peace talks, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said today.

"I am asking him not to visit the two capitals but to shuttle between the two capitals until he is in a position to come to me and to tell me the way in which we can resume the discussions between the two parties," Perez de Cuellar told a news conference.

The Arab Times originally reported in August that Indian political sources had accused Singh while he was finance minister deposited more than \$21 million in a numbered account in the Caribbean tax haven of St Kitts.

Copies of certified documents which appeared to substantiate the accusation were subsequently published in the Indian press raising strong suspicions that through a complicated business arrangement the funds were illegally obtained by Singh during his term as Indian minister of finance. It is alleged that the St Kitts deposits were funded out of kickbacks which Singh received in connection with business between Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation, an Indian government

(Continued on Page 2, Col 7)



Manila clash on bases

POLICE clashed on Tuesday with students marching toward the US embassy to protest the presence of US bases in the Philippines and Vice-President Dan Quayle's visit next week.

Witnesses said about 50 members of the League of Filipino Students were marching near the embassy when they realised that only about eight policemen were guarding the compound.

The students then marched to the main gate, but it was closed by security guards, who then began shoving the

students. Police fired pistols in the air to scatter the demonstrators.

The students briefly hurled stones and bottles at the police.

■ The Philippines President Corazon Aquino is scheduled next November to pay an official visit to Canada, it was announced in Ottawa today.

Coverage of Philippines continues on Page 6

'Maroc' hijacker gives up

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, Sept. 19. (Reuter): A lone gunman hijacked a Moroccan airliner to Spain's Canary Islands today but later surrendered after releasing all six passengers, an Interior Minister spokesman said.

He said the man, armed with a sub-machinegun, gave himself up to police after negotiating with a Spanish government representative in Las Palmas at the island's Gando airport.

The Royal Air Maroc twin-engined Fokker, with six passengers and two crew, was commanded on a flight to Smara from El Aaiun, in the formerly-Spanish-controlled Western Sahara, annexed by Morocco.

The hijack came less than a week before King Hassan of Morocco starts his first state visit to Spain next Monday.

Police said the hijacker asked Spanish authorities over the plane's radio to publish a statement about the King's Madrid visit. Details of the statement were not immediately known.

The plane landed at Las Palmas, on Grand Canary Island off the western Sahara, at 3 pm (1400 GMT) after the pilot radioed that he was being held at gunpoint.

(Continued on Page 2, Col 7)

OUAGADOUGOU, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Burkina Faso said today it had executed by firing squad two leaders of a failed coup plot.

A member of the ruling Popular Front government told Reuters that Defence Minister Jean-Baptiste Lingani and Minister of Economic Promotion Henri Zongo had been executed for their role in October 1987.

National radio said today that Lingani and Zongo intended to restore "fascist power" in Burkina Faso.

Still questions in Kitts Affair

FLOODED with claims of government corruption and counter claims of dirty tricks, Indian politics have in recent months been in more tumultuous than usual. Most prominent among the allegations of high-level corruption have been claims that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his friends personally profited more than \$60 million from arms sales to the Indian government by the Swedish manufacturer Bofors.

Leading opposition politician, V.P. Singh, 57, projecting an image of personal integrity and abhorrence of corruption in government, led the attack on Rajiv after the Bofors allegations were broken during a news broadcast on Swedish radio.

In early August 1989, Singh led more than 100 opposition politicians in an unprecedented mass resignation from Parliament. This came after Rajiv's ruling Congress (I) Party blocked opposition moves to force a parliamentary committee to review the official report on the Bofors allegations issued by the Indian Comptroller and Auditor General.

In late August, Singh stepped up the offensive by calling for a general strike dubbed "Bharat Bandh," inciting his supporters to stay away from their jobs or shut down their businesses as a sign of defiance against Rajiv's government.

Tensions reached such high levels that even many supporters of Rajiv, scared by threats of violence between factional gangs, stayed home on the day of the strike. As a result of Singh's campaign, 12 people died and much of the daily social and commercial life of India was disrupted for one day in the last week of August.

Ironically, Singh was once a favourite protege of Rajiv's mother Indira Gandhi, who

was assassinated in 1984. He served in the positions of minister of defence, minister of finance and minister of commerce at various times in Mrs Gandhi's government and the government of her son. In 1987, Singh dramatically broke from the Rajiv family's Congress (I) Party and formed the opposition party Janata Dal.

With his strength growing in the wake of the Bofors scandal and other events, Singh has frequently demanded Rajiv's resignation and has recently led his party into a strong coalition with more than 10 other opposition parties. Many Indian political analysts believe that Singh has good chance of defeating Rajiv in national elections which, under Indian law, must be held by the end of January 1990.

Singh's chances of defeating Rajiv Gandhi, however, are now open to question when recent allegations that he is possibly not as clean as the image he cultivates.

The Arab Times originally reported in August that Indian political sources had accused Singh while he was finance minister deposited more than \$21 million in a numbered account in the Caribbean tax haven of St Kitts.

Copies of certified documents which appeared to substantiate the accusation were subsequently published in the Indian press raising strong suspicions that through a complicated business arrangement the funds were illegally obtained by Singh during his term as Indian minister of finance. It is alleged that the St Kitts deposits were funded out of kickbacks which Singh received in connection with business between Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation, an Indian government

(Continued on Page 2, Col 7)

Burkina Faso foils coup plot, executes two top ministers

Zongo had tried to orchestrate the arrest of Compaore when he returned from abroad last night.

Lingani and Zongo, two of the most powerful men in this West African country, were Compaore's closest collaborators after he toppled his predecessor Thomas Sankara in a bloody coup in October 1987.

National radio said today that Lingani and Zongo intended to restore "fascist power" in Burkina Faso.

"Our country has escaped from a sordid plot by militant fascists directed by ambitious anti-revolutionaries at the very pinnacle of power," the radio said, quoting a communiqué of the ruling party.

Both men, Zongo and Lingani were comrades in arms of Compaore and his predecessor, Thomas Sankara, who seized power in a 1983 coup. Sankara was killed in the 1987 coup which put Compaore in charge.

France joins rescue operation

DC-10 with 154 missing in Africa

PARIS, Sept. 19. (Agencies):

A French DC-10 airliner with 154 people aboard, including the wife of the US ambassador in Chad and a senior Chadian official, vanished today on a flight from Chad to France, airline officials said.

The DC-10-30 last was heard of a short time after it left the Chadian capital of N'Djamena at 2:20 pm (120 GMT), the Union of Air Transport or UTA Airline said.

Airline sources in N'Djamena said the passengers on the missing flight UT-772 included the wife of the US ambassador to the African capital and Chadian Planning Minister Mahamat Soumaila. Soumaila was travelling to Paris en route for Washington, where he was to attend a meeting at the International Monetary Fund.

Transplant of altered cells: US national cancer institute scientists claimed success on Monday in the first transplant of genetically-altered cells into a human.

"We have found that it is practical and feasible and safe," NCI researcher Dr Steven Rosenberg said. (Reuter) — (Details Page 8)

Bread price rise: Sudan's military junta raised the price of bread on Tuesday and said the prices of other heavily-subsidized goods would be reviewed.

Information Minister Ali Shomouli told reporters that a loaf would now cost 25 piasters (five cents) up from five piasters.

He was speaking after a joint meeting of the 15-man junta and the civilian cabinet it appointed after ousting Prime Minister Saied Al Mahdi's civilian government in June.

Shomouli denied the bread price rise was made under pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the World Bank. (Reuter)

Panel bares peace draft

NICOSIA, Sept. 19. (Agencies):

The Arab League committee charged with settling Lebanon's 14-year civil war has proposed a "national reconciliation charter" for Lebanon.

Following are main points of the proposed charter released late yesterday through the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA):

■ Executive power to lie with the prime minister, rather than the president as at present.

■ The allocation of top political, civil service and military jobs to be abolished. The present unwritten system carves up top jobs between the various religious groups.

■ The number of seats in Parliament to be increased to 128 from the present 99, to be split equally between Christians and Muslims. Christians have a majority under the present system.

■ Disarming all militias within six months of forming a "national reconciliation government," which will implement the reforms, and dismantling them within a year.

■ Allowing all refugees who have fled Christian or Muslim-controlled areas since 1975 to return home.

■ Securing Israel's withdrawal from its so-called "security-zone" in south Lebanon under UN supervision and the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the area.

■ Syrian troops to remain in Lebanon for up to two years to help the new government extend its authority over the whole of Lebanon. The two-year period to start once the reforms are in place and a new government and president are in office.

■ Syrian troops to be redeployed after this two-year period in the eastern Bekaa Valley under an agreement with the new government on the size and duration of their presence.

Arab League envoy Lakhdar Al Ibrahim said today he was optimistic about the prospects for peace in Lebanon despite continued fighting between Syrian and Christian forces.

Also today, a small bomb exploded outside the offices of American Express in east Beirut. The building suffered some damage, but no casualties were reported.

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Grand Bingo

Mr. Vincent P. D'Souza won the Four Corners and Top Line prizes. He will receive KD50. Game No: 72 continues for the First, Second and Third Full House prizes.

ARAB TIMES</p

INTERNATIONAL

Don't violate truce, India tells Lankans

COLOMBO, Sept. 19. (Agencies): The commander of Indian forces in Sri Lanka, Lieutenant-General A.S. Kalkat, said today action would be taken against anyone who violated a ceasefire due to go into effect tomorrow morning.

He said in a statement his troops would cease offensive military operations against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in accordance with a pact signed by New Delhi and Colombo providing for the withdrawal of all Indian troops from Sri Lanka by Dec. 31.

The ceasefire is due to take effect from 6:00 am (0030 GMT).

Kalkat said his troops would take action against anyone "indulging in military activity or attempting to disrupt normal life or communal harmony."

They would also take action against all armed persons except bodyguards of provincial council members, who belong to Tamil groups, sworn enemies of the LTTE for their alleged collaboration with the Indians.

A Sri Lankan government official, who asked not to be identified, said Colombo was concerned over Indian statements that the accord, signed by both countries yes-

terday, did not guarantee an Indian military pullout by the end of the year.

He said Colombo was seeking clarifications from New Delhi over the statements and emphasized the troops had to go as scheduled.

In renewed violence today, two civilians died and 21 people, including eight policemen, were injured when a bomb exploded outside a police station 30 km (20 miles) northeast of Colombo.

Police blamed the explosion on the leftist Sinhalese JVP People's Liberation Front fighting to overthrow the

government.

Earlier, three policemen were injured in a rebel ambush in the same vicinity.

A government spokesman said eight rebels were killed by security forces in "cordon and search" operations in the last 24 hours.

Elsewhere, officials and witnesses said, at least 27 people had died in ethnic-related violence since Monday.

Military officials blamed the killings on the ultra-nationalist front. But residents in the area said the victims were slain by pro-government vigilante groups.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Manila celebrates Peace Day

About 500 Filipino school children join in the burning of toy guns in connection with the celebrations of United Nations' International Peace Day in Manila. (Reuter wirephoto)



Thatcher stops over

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (left) is met by the Chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet Yevgeny Primakov (right) at Moscow Airport yesterday. Thatcher stopped over in Moscow en route for Tokyo. (Reuter wirephoto)

India seeks better ties

Not aid but trade

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Kuna): The new Indian envoy here urged the United States to pay attention to India and said his country needs much closer links with the United States in order to overcome the poverty barrier.

"We seek not aid but trade, not charity but technology," said Ambassador Karan Singh, in an article in the Washington Post. "India today represents one of the great potential markets of the 21st century. Our burgeoning middle class is steadily developing the capacity to absorb American products."

He added, "we are, under a youthful, technology-oriented prime minister, in the process of liberalizing our foreign investment policies, and we need an adequate response from American entrepreneurs, including the 750,000 American citizens of Indian origin who are making a handsome contribution to their adopted country and can also help India's economic growth."

The present situation, he said, represents an unprecedented opportunity for breaking the indifference factor and bringing India into prominent focus in the United States.

French version of Guardian Angels soon

PARIS, Sept. 19. (Reuter): French transport officials plan to field a brigade of baton-wielding martial arts fighters in a crackdown on crime on the underground railways of Paris.

Around 60 super-fit athletes would patrol the Metro network by December if the plan gets the final go-ahead, a spokesman for the Paris transport authority said today.

The fighters would be at least 1.80 metres (five feet nine inches) tall, able to sprint 100 metres (yards) in less than 13 seconds, and hold the "purple belt"

Indian troops to return: Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom said today the last of the Indian troops which helped crush an attempt to topple his government would go home on November 3.

Gayoom asked for Indian help when 100 mercenaries from Sri Lanka, hired by an expatriate Maldivian businessman, attempted to take over the government of the tiny Indian ocean archipelago in November last year.

Plane-loads of Indian troops landed in Maldives hours after Gayoom sent an emergency message to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Nearly 700 returned the same day after foiling the attempted coup. (Reuter)

Airport security tax: Relatives of Britons killed in the Lockerbie air disaster in Scotland, today showed a video to British Transport Secretary Cecil Parkinson, which they claim, proves airport security is still lax.

Members of the committee for the UK families of Pan-Am flight 103 said they have evidence of poor security at both Heathrow and Frankfurt, West Germany, where the bomb which blew up the jumbo jet and killed 270 people last December was reportedly planted.

As they arrived at the Department of Transport for the first full meeting with Parkinson, they said they would ask him why luggage was not searched when the New York-based flight landed at London's Heathrow airport. (Kuna)

Yugoslavia chided: The president of the international Helsinki Federation for Human Rights yesterday accused Yugoslav prison officials of brutality following the imposition of a state of emergency in Kosovo province.

People were beaten and held in isolation without charges, said federation president Karl von Schwarzenberg at a news conference following a fact-finding trip to Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, that nation's tense southern province.

According to official sources, police arrested and isolated 237 ethnic Albanians under emergency regulations to quell unrest in which at least 24 people died last February and March.

Ethnic Albanians account for about 85 per cent of the population in Kosovo. (AP)

Opposition begins talks: A trio of opposition parties began talks yesterday on forming a coalition to topple Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland after her minority Labour government took a beating in the Sept 11 national elections.

A Conservative-led three party coalition, with the Agrarian Centre and the Christian Democratic Parties, would control 62 of the expanded parliament's 165 seats and would have to depend on the rightist Party of Progress, with 22 seats, for support.

But, the three traditional parties snubbed a request by Progress Party chairman Carl I. Hagen to be included in negotiations. His challenge of the welfare state puts him outside the mainstream of the country's politics. (AP)

Swedish airspace violated: Two US F-4 jet fighters briefly violated neutral Sweden's airspace during an exercise in northern Norway, Nato member Norway said today.

The US pilots denied the allegation, Norway's defence command said in a statement.

A Swedish embassy spokesman in Oslo said two unidentified foreign jets violated Swedish airspace yesterday morning and an official protest would be made.

After earlier violations of Sweden's airspace, Nato aircraft have been restricted from flying closer than 20 nautical miles to the Swedish border. (Reuter)

Heroin haul: Police in Hungary, mounting their biggest ever drug operation, seized 28 kilos (62 pounds) of heroin hidden in the gearbox of a Turkish truck, the national MTI news agency said today.

Police stopped the truck in Budapest last Thursday after a tip-off from the international police organisation Interpol, the agency said, adding that the heroin was worth nearly \$1.7 million dollars. (Reuter)

Commonwealth's 3.3 million people live. The winds ripped out glass, walls and furnishings from the top four floors of a 25-storey building, leaving only beams washed away. (Reuter)

Fifty airplanes were reported destroyed at the airport in Isla Verde.

Looters stripped shops of their goods in San Juan, where electrical power cut during the storm had not been restored this morning.

Police cars with flashing lights patrolled San Juan streets early today, and guards protected governing party headquarters and other major buildings.

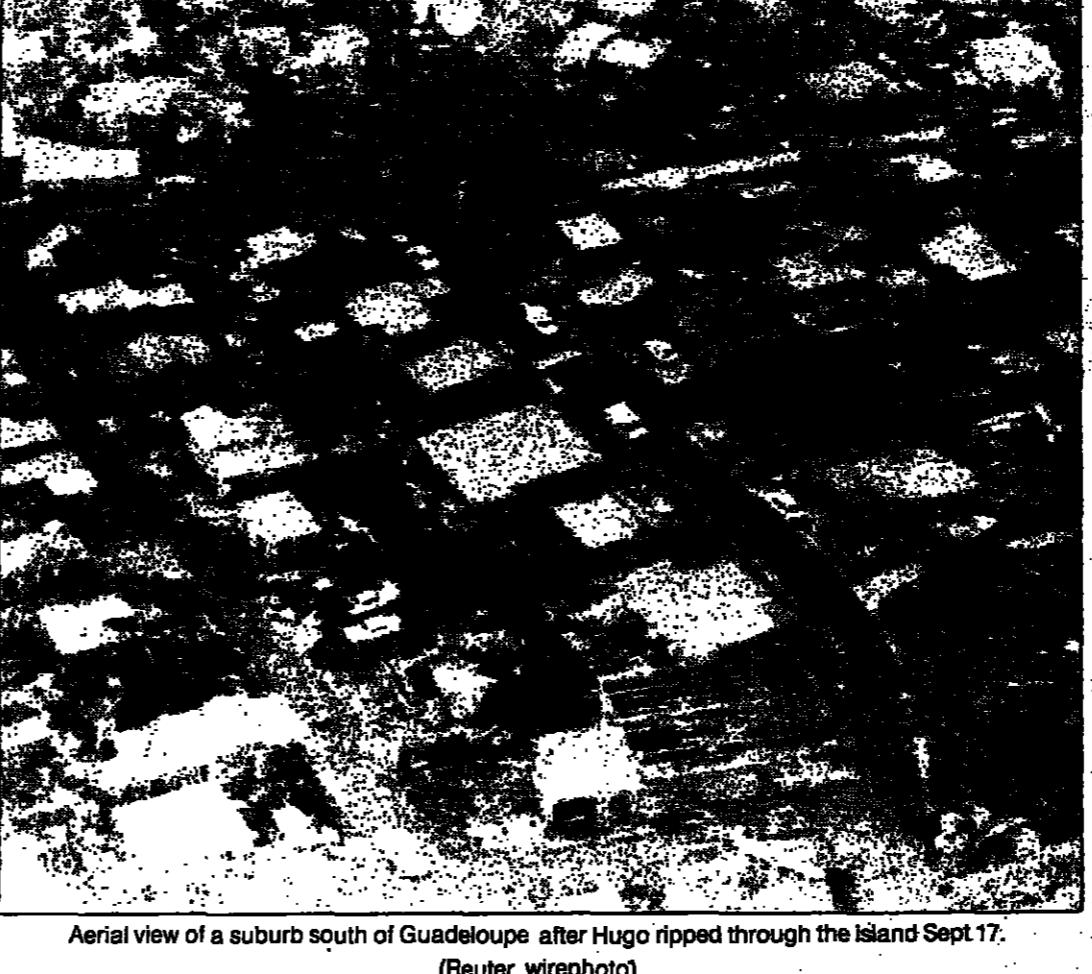
Major streets were cleared, but secondary streets remained clogged with power lines, tree limbs, sheets of metal and shattered debris. Flooding made many roads impassable and international communications were disrupted.

In the northeast town of Luquillo, 10 homes were swept downriver and six families were reported missing, the US weather service office said, quoting its San Juan bureau.

Civil defence officials reported 80 per cent of the homes on the Puerto Rican island of Culebra were either destroyed or damaged.

Coast Guard Capt. Paul Blaney said the eye of the hurricane passed over the Island of Vieques, off southeastern Puerto Rico. Concrete structures appeared to be intact although there was substantial damage to wooden buildings, Blaney said.

Six people were killed and hundreds of buildings were flattened on the British island of Montserrat, the British government said today. It said nearly all of the 12,000 island residents were homeless.



Aerial view of a suburb south of Guadeloupe after Hugo ripped through the island Sept. 17. (Reuter wirephoto)



One of the main streets on the island of Guadeloupe shows the damage caused by Hurricane Hugo. (Reuter wirephoto)

Puerto Rico devastated

Hugo kills 39, may hit US

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Sept. 19. (AP): Hurricane Hugo spun toward the Bahamas today after blasting Puerto Rico with 125 mile (200 kilometre) per hour winds, leaving at least 14 dead throughout the eastern Caribbean and more than 50,000 homeless.

The US National Weather Service reported another 25 deaths in Puerto Rico. There was no immediate confirmation from island officials, who said poor communications were hindering efforts to assess the damage.

Hugo hit northeastern Puerto Rico and then skirted its populous northern coast yesterday. It roared on to the northwest and toward open water, its hurricane-force winds missing the Dominican Republic.

At 1300 GMT today, the hurricane's centre was near latitude 21.8 degrees north and longitude 68.1 west, about 195 miles (314 kilometres) east of grand Turk island in the southern Bahamas according to the National Weather Service. Winds had fallen to 105 miles (169 kilometres) per hour.

Forecasters said it likely would hit the US mainland later in the week but said it was too early to predict where.

Cleanup efforts were underway today throughout Puerto Rico, where Gov. Rafael Hernandez-Colon said at least 26,900 people were left homeless.

Hugo's winds overturned cars, peeled roofs off houses and office buildings and sent chunks of concrete plunging into streets in San Juan, where one-third of the US

Civil defence officials reported 80 per cent of the homes on the Puerto Rican island of Culebra were either destroyed or damaged.

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Hurricane warnings were in effect for the southern Bahamas, including the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"Unfortunately, our best (hurricane computer projection) models indicate that it will turn back" towards the west — and the east coast, Bob Sheets, director of the US National Hurricane Center, said yesterday.

Since Sunday, the storm has caused widespread damage in Guadeloupe, Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat and the US Virgin Islands.

Six people were killed and hundreds of buildings were flattened on the British island of Montserrat, the British government said today. It said nearly all of the 12,000 island residents were homeless.

Elegant women had long suffered the constraints of bust bandages or body corsets, culminating in the sculpted naughtily 90s torso-cincher aptly called the "Waistie."

As a working woman, Hermine was distressed by this currently fashionable strapless.

So she came up with a frilly two-part garment — the first ribbed "bra." It was attached to the corset by net, but freed the abdomen, and was soon an altogether separate item.

Suspended from its two shoulder straps, this revolutionary contraption was colourfully called the "Bra-Etre" or well-being.

100 years later, world still gets a lift

PARIS, Sept. 19. (AP): It was as revolutionary as the storming of the Bastille, as beautifully engineered as the Eiffel Tower. That great French achievement — the brassiere — is 100 years old this year.

As the Eiffel Tower was going up, an enterprising French lady named Hermine Cadolle was constructing the first bra — called "Soutien-Gorge" in French, literally "throat support."

While Hermine's invention has become a wardrobe fixture, her descendants are still serving up "couture" bras and other lingerie in the quite exclusive house of Cadolle on the Rue Cambon just off the fashionable Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore.

"My great-great grandmother was very liberated," says Poupee Cadolle, 43, an ebullient blonde who carries on the family custom lingerie trade with her mother, Alice.

Widowed at a young age, Hermine Cadolle went to

Still questions in Kitts Affair

(Continued from Page 1)

St. Kitts. According to sources in St. Kitts and Canada, many shareholders of the First Trust Corporation became disenchanted with him because he expanded much of the corporation's capital into the institutional operations for which it was not intended but on pre-development costs, such as architect's fees and property acquisition options, for the resort. He was never able to obtain financing for the

project.

One of the most troubling questions raised by concerned wary Ajeya Singh, a Cuban employee based in New York and previously familiar with the well-established offshore banking industry elsewhere, would have chosen to entrust \$21 million to a fledgling bank on the tiny island of St. Kitts. Apparently the answer lies in the First Trust Corporation's substantial links to India and its Ministry of Finance.

Promotional literature for the company's "Special Investment Programme in Co-operation with Indian Nationals," provides a hint. One line from the promotional flyer reads: "In the case of an investment in India, the investment is channelled through an associate company controlled by an Indian national living abroad, which conforms with all Indian government regulations."

Whether or not Maclean's interpretation of Indian law was overly optimistic, it is clear that he actively sought to obtain deposits from Indian residents laundered through non-resident Indians.

Three resident Indian nationals who were apparently customers of the bank, Jivan Shastri, a businessman from Madras; R. Sundaram, address unknown; and B. Ramagopalan, also of Madras,

Research into Ramagopalan's background has revealed details elicited in the audit department of the Indian Finance Ministry at various posts in India and Africa.

The recent allegation against Singhare not the first scandal in which Maclean and his First Trust Corporation have been involved.

Sources in St. Kitts have revealed that the First Trust Corporation was involved in a 1987 and 1988 PML investigation into the activities of a Toronto-based cocaine trafficker, accused of smuggling more than \$300 million worth of cocaine across the Canadian border into the United States each year.

According to court records, the trafficker, now in a US federal penitentiary, first opened an account in the First Trust Corporation during September 1986, and passed more than \$3 million through the account within a few months.

The V.P. Singh-MMTC-Indian Express Connection

It is well known that when Singh became India's minister of finance, he brought his long-time friend Maclean, who became chairman of MMTC, the company's parent whose main trade Singh is alleged to have received the kickbacks which were deposited in the St. Kitts account.

Less well known however, are the ties between MMTC and the Indian Express newspaper. During his tenure as MMTC chairman, Raghavan moved MMTC's executive offices into buildings owned by the Indian Express. MMTC's lease agreements for space in the Indian Express Building in New Delhi and the Express Tower in Bombay were negotiated and signed personally by Raghavan. Sources within MMTC have charged that Raghavan contracted to pay substantially inflated lease rates in exchange for kickbacks from the Indian Express.

Nearly overlooked in recent analysis of the allegations against Singh is a short article headed "The Next Move: Not a Farce but an Account" which was published in the Indian Express in its 20 August 1989 edition.

Bingo Day 5

67 15 20 73

THE Messilah Beach Hotel
WINDSURFING CLASSIC

9 am RACES START



LIMITED TO FUN BOARDS ONLY •
THE REGATTA IS OPEN TO ALL •
MEN AND WOMEN SAILORS IN KUWAIT •
CONTESTANT ENTRY FEE: KD 5.000 PER PERSON
SPECTATOR FEE - ADULTS: KD 1.000 PER PERSON
CHILDREN: KD 0.500 PER PERSON
CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 1.10.1989

Sportman Co. W.L.L.
Gaddafi Motor Sales Co.
Alwadii Al-Sab

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1989

Earhart search underway

American team explores atoll for remains

SUVA, Fiji, Sept 19, (AP): An American team landed yesterday on a deserted Pacific island where it believes Amelia Earhart crashed in her 1937 attempt to fly around the world, the expedition leader said.

"There was no immediate sign of any wreckage," Richard Gillespie, head of the international group for Historic Aircraft Research, told his base camp in Fiji from a ship off the island of Nikumaroro, 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) to the east.

Gillespie's Wilmington, Delaware-based group will spend the next three weeks searching Nikumaroro in the Kiribati archipelago.

"Near the beach, the vegetation is very dense and easily could have hidden an aircraft from aerial searches," he said of attempts 52 years ago to locate the American pilot after

she crashed.

The 16 expedition members — including naval historians, divers and archaeologists — left Fiji a week ago aboard a converted Japanese trawler, the Pacific Nomad.

After spending the past two years trying to resolve a mystery that has confounded experts for decades, they concluded that Miss Earhart must have crash landed on Nikumaroro instead of her intended stopover destination of Howland Island, 500 miles (800 kilometers) to the north.

Gillespie said that if she crashed on the island at low tide she would have stood a good chance of surviving for a brief time.

Nikumaroro, also known as Gardner, is uninhabited and without fresh water. The group believes Miss Earhart managed to send

distress signals for about three days before dying of thirst.

"We are all very exhilarated and in awe of the beauty of the place," he said. "None of us have ever seen a place so wild as Nikumaroro."

He said the V-shaped island was home to a huge amount of wildlife.

"Seabirds of every description circle the island and black-tipped sharks are in constant attendance. There are fish, turtles and dolphins in abundance."

Miss Earhart disappeared in 1937 after taking off from Papua, New Guinea, just north of Australia, in an attempt to make the first circumnavigation of the world by plane.

Her exploits achieved legendary status in the United States.

Hostages traded in for pizza

MCKEE, Ky., Sept 19, (Reuters): A heavily-armed schoolboy took 11 classmates hostage in rural Kentucky yesterday then surrendered after gradually releasing the captives, trading them for pizza, cigarettes, soft drinks, a police radio and a video of the horror film "Nightmare On Elm Street", police said.

Dustin Pierce, 17, surrendered quietly last evening about an hour after he released the last hostage.

Armed with a shotgun and two high-powered pistols he entered classroom 102 at Jackson County High School about 9:20 am fired a shot into the ceiling and told the teacher, Brenda Clark, and her 10 students to remain calm and nothing would happen, police and witnesses said.

Escaped

The young gunman then shot out a rear window of the classroom and told a hostage, Brian Bond, to crawl through the window and fetch an AM-FM radio and a telephone, police spokesman John Thorpe said. After Bond, who had driven the boy to school, escaped through the broken window to freedom, troopers threw a police radio into the classroom, he said.

Between 11 am and 1:30 pm, nine of the hostages had been freed, and about 6:15 pm the remaining two were released, Thorpe said. The young gunman surrendered about 15 minutes later, Thorpe said.

Parents

Hostage negotiators and a special response unit had sealed off the school grounds in rural McKee and anxious parents waited outside the police lines throughout the day, as police kept up continuous telephone contact with the juvenile.

Kevin Cunigan, the third hostage to be released unharmed, said the assailant "was a real smart student. He was real quiet. He was in real control. He seemed to know what he was doing."

Thorpe said, "negotiators have determined the only demand made by the juvenile has been to have his father present."

Police would not disclose the young gunman's identity, but Hiram Parks, an elderly man who said he was the boy's maternal grandfather, identified him as Dustin Pierce.

"He's never talked to his dad in his life, as far as I know," Parks said of the youth.

The man called Pierce a straight-A student at Jackson High. "He's a good kid," Parks said. "He just don't like his dad. He wants to shoot him."

Police escorted the Parkses into the school, but their grandson refused to talk to them.

Parks said Dustin had invited young Bonds to the Parkses' farm to study with him Sunday night, then disappeared. "I spent all night hunting for him and couldn't locate him," Parks said. "It's destroyed me and my wife."

The hostage drama at the high school, about two miles outside McKee, brought the area to a virtual standstill as police blocked off the main road, evacuated students and sealed off the area, authorities said.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan: The man who initiated an investigation into the deaths of five nursing home patients testified Monday that his ex-wife told him her former lesbian lover suffocated patients while she stood watch.

Ken Wood testified in the trial of former nurse's aide Gwendolyn Graham, who is charged with five counts of first-degree murder and one count of conspiracy to murder for allegedly smothering five incapacitated patients at Alpine Manor Nursing Home in Walker.

WASHINGTON: House staff members met Monday with congressional investigators to discuss an inquiry by an Ohio lawmaker into the Navy's report on the explosion aboard the battleship Iowa.

US Rep. Mary Rose Oakar last week asked the General Accounting Office and the House Armed Services committee to investigate the thoroughness and impartiality of the Navy's probe. (AP)

NEW ORLEANS: To help concertgoers quell those disruptive coughs, the New Orleans Symphony will offer audience members free cough drops.

Starting Wednesday night at the season-opening concert, the lozenges, in five flavours, will be available in the symphony hall lobby.

The manufacturer says the cough drops come in wax paper, which can be unwrapped quickly. (AP)

KANSAS CITY, Missouri: The US Census Bureau plans to hire the homeless to count the homeless during the 1990 census, according to a regional office.

Ben Arza, co-ordinator of the census-awareness programme for the regional census centre, said officials hoped that by hiring the homeless, they will get a more accurate count.

Arza said about 60 homeless people would be hired throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. (AP)

SAN FRANCISCO: Heavy rains drenched northern California for a third day, dashing hopes of a fruitful grape harvest in the region's wine country.

"We were talking about a very large Chardonnay crop this year. We can forget about quantity now and we'll have to see about quality," said Andrew Beckstoffer, the biggest wine grape supplier in Mendocino county with 2,000 acres (810 hectares).

Growers in Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties worked in the fields and hoped for sunshine as the sun broke through clouds Monday afternoon after three days of rain.

VALLEJO, California: The second of two rare beaked whales that beached themselves died early Monday after a record 25 days in captivity, officials at Marine World-Africa USA said.

Hundreds of volunteers had helped care for the young marine mammals, which had never before survived in captivity.

The whale that died Monday, Alexander, was found Aug 24 on Ocean Beach in San Francisco with a second beaked whale that was named Nicholas.

Alexander had been suffering from pneumonia, but Marine World president Mike Demetrios said the exact cause of death will not be known pending final results of a necropsy and pathology tests. (AP)

AKRON, Ohio: Fifteen years ago Leonard Brown, of Swindon, England, meant to dial the offices of a Chicago magazine to say he had not received his latest edition.

Instead, he got Marilynn Carroll in University Park, Pennsylvania, who answered the call while working as a switchboard operator at Pennsylvania State University, and after polite introductions the two continued talking.

Brown, now 81, this month travelled to his phone-pal's home in Akron and has spent the past two weeks getting to know her and her husband Tom Harmon. (AP)

CHICAGO: Crew teams from Oxford and Cambridge universities rowed past the Sears Tower and Wrigley Building as they moved their 160-year-old rowing rivalry from the River Thames to the Chicago River.

The event's organizer, Peter Mowbray, originally wanted Oxford to compete against a midwest team, but when he realized no local teams could match England's talent, he contacted Cambridge.

Oxford's nine-man crew won Saturday's race by less than half a length, though it will not count in the official win-loss record compiled since 1829 — 69 victories for Cambridge and 66 to Oxford, which has won 14 of the last 15 matches. (AP)

BOSTON: Children watched in horror when cement chunks and beams fell from the roof into a swimming pool, injuring nine young children class and a lifeguard, police said.

"We were looking through a picture window down the other end, and then the whole roof over the shallow end just came down in one piece," said John Welch, whose son Michael, was not injured in the accident Monday at the YMCA.

Three boys, all 4-year-olds, were taken to children's hospital, where two were treated and released and the third was admitted in serious condition, said hospital spokeswoman Kristi Kienholz.

A 20-foot-long (6-by-4.5-metre) section fell, authorities said. (AP)

CHAMPLAIN, New York: The last of a band of fugitive monkeys are leading captors on merry chases as they make themselves at home in upstate New York.

About 80 Japanese Macaque monkeys swam from the Parc Safari Gaspé preserve in Quebec to Clinton county in northeastern New York in June. Most were quickly rounded up and returned to Canada, but the remaining primates have been eluding their would-be captors. (AP)

ATHENS, Sept 19: The Health Ministry said yesterday that medical personnel would be sent to a mental hospital on the Aegean island of Leros, following recent newspaper revelations about poor conditions at the institution.

Health Minister Miltiades Evert said that 40 doctors and paramedical personnel would be sent to the state-run hospital.

Last week he acknowledged that there were only two psychiatrists and four nurses tending to 1,300 patients at Leros, adding that it was his ministry's priority to improve conditions at the asylum.

The previous Sunday the London daily Observer ran a front-page article calling the Leros institution "Europe's guilty secret." It depicted "concentration camp conditions" in which male, female and child psychiatric patients were held.

The paper reported that naked inmates were left chained to their beds.

Although conditions at Leros had often been described as "inhuman" in the Greek press, and Evert had paid a highly publicized visit to the island in July, the Observer reported a strong reaction in Greece.

The conservative-leftist coalition government charged last week that the former socialist administration had used up only 20 percent of a five-year, \$6 million European Economic Community grant intended to improve conditions at Leros and other such institutions.

The government coalition was forced in July after inconclusive national elections led to the Socialists' fall from office after eight years.



Carrying a dozen red roses given to her by a fan, Gabor enters the courtroom yesterday. (Reuters photo)

'No comment please'

Gabor arrives at court subdued

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Sept 19, (UPI): A muted Zsa Zsa Gabor, who last week provided endless commentary on her cop-slapping trial, arrived in court yesterday mouthing the words the judge admonished her to memorize: "No comment."

Gabor, dressed in a blue blazer over a white blouse and white slacks, again was greeted by a barrage of news media as she entered the municipal courthouse, but refused to answer any question about her much-publicised case.

The former Miss Hungary faces misdemeanor charges of battery on a police officer, driving with an expired licence and driving with an open container of alcohol from her arrest June 14.

The prosecution was expected yesterday to continue calling witnesses who saw the incident in which Gabor slapped officer Paul Kramer. Gabor con-

tinued to expect to last two weeks, with each side scheduled to call a dozen witnesses. By the end of the first week, deputy District Attorney Elden Fox had made it halfway through his list.

Several witnesses so far have testified that Gabor first swore at Kramer when he stopped her June 14 for driving with expired licence plate tags, then hauled off and slapped him without provocation.

Zimbalist Jr kept in the dark

Actor testifies against Bakker

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina, Sept 19, (AP): Actor Efrem Zimbalist Jr testified at the fraud trial of PTL ministry founder Jim Bakker that the PTL board of directors did not act like other boards.

"It was called a board of directors, but at no time did it operate like one," said Zimbalist, star of the TV series "The FBI" who served on the board from 1981 to 1986 at Bakker's invitation.

"It was a board of approval or affirmation only," he said.

Zimbalist had trouble recalling specifics about his service on the board, saying he appeared at six or seven board meetings before resigning in January 1986.

The government accuses Bakker of diverting more than \$3.7 million in PTL money to fund his lavish lifestyle. If found guilty of the 24 counts against him, he could be sentenced to 120 years in prison and fined more than \$5 million.

Prosecutors had said earlier that they would probably finish presenting evidence by Wednesday at the latest. Defense attor-

neys have estimated that they will spend eight days presenting their case.

Zimbalist testified that he was kept in the dark about PTL's financial problems, including prosecution allegations that Bakker accepted huge bonuses at a time when the ministry was in financial trouble.

He said he recalled voting for only three bonuses: One for \$15,000; another to help the Bakkers purchase their home; and a third about which he could not recall details.

Under questioning by prosecutor Jerry Miller, Zimbalist described the meetings as being very simple and lacking detailed information about PTL's finances and other operational concerns.

Bakker and his wife, Tammy Faye, received more than \$3 million in bonuses from the ministry in the mid-1980s, according to evidence presented in the trial. The bonuses often came during periods of financial trouble for the ministry, witnesses have testified.

The alarms that are going off absolutely staggered me," said Winn Schwartau, president of American Computer Security Industries Inc. in Nashville, Tennessee.

He said several government agencies and Fortune 500 companies had contacted him about the virus.

Computer viruses, created by anonymous programmers, are pieces of software that make copies of themselves and spread from one machine to another through infected floppy disks, office networks or phone links such as computer bulletin boards.

"Frankly, the virus isn't all that important a virus, yet this phone is ringing off the hook," Ross Greenberg, a New Yorker who makes a virus protector called flu-shot plus, said late last week.

Greenberg said he has received maybe a half-dozen reports of the virus since it surfaced earlier this year.

The Computer Virus Industry Association of Santa Clara, California, has received seven reports, chairman John McCabe said yesterday.

In contrast there have been thousands of reports of other viruses. Far more people will be hit Oct 13 by the less harmful but more widespread Jerusalem virus, also known as the PLO or Friday the 13th virus.

"I'm more worried about spilling a cup of coffee on my keyboard than I am about the datacrime virus," Greenberg said.

Datacrime attacks the hard disk data-storage devices of IBM-compatible personal computers that use Microsoft Corp's MS-DOS operating system.

Mystery creature 'guarded' treasure

COLUMBIA, South Carolina, Sept 19, (AP): Researchers have discovered a "facy and delicate" creature at the site of a 19th century shipwreck containing some \$400 million in gold off South Carolina.

Oceanographer Charles Herdendorf said the organism was one of two new invertebrates found clinging to the SS Central America, in Atlantic waters 200 miles (320 kms) off its southern state.

Herdendorf said in a ship-to-shore phone lineup Sunday that an unmanned submersible ship was able to retrieve only one of the unusual finds, apparently a type of animal known as a sponge.

Scientists were still trying to determine if it was already classified.

"When (the submersible operator) brought it up, it was beautiful, very lacy and delicate. The entire animal is supported by a very clear skeleton of glass spicules," Herdendorf said. "They look like little ice skeletons."

Herdendorf is one of about 20 crew members of the ship Arctic Discoverer, who are trying to reclaim as much as \$400 million in gold coins and bars from the Central America.

The Central America sank during a hurricane on Sept 12, 1857, as it travelled from Panama to New York. It was carrying a monthly shipment of gold from the San Francisco mint to New York by way of the Panama Canal. The wreck carried 425 lives — 153 people survived.

Early estimates valued the treasure at \$1 billion, but exploration director Barry Schatz said \$400 million is more realistic.

The organism captured on Saturday, originally thought to be a coral, looked different when it was brought up from the original

Menem to pardon military officials

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 19, (AP): Eighteen retired generals and admirals accused of committing hundreds of human rights abuses in the 1970s will be pardoned, President Carlos Menem has announced.

The cases of six others, including two former presidents, already convicted and sentenced, will be considered at a later date, Menem said late Sunday in a brief interview with the official TV channel.

"In this first stage we are going to pardon those who are now facing trial," Menem told Channel 7. "We will take a look later at those who already have been sentenced."

Menem's statement was the first firm indication regarding who would be included in the controversial presidential pardon, expected to be announced following his return on Sept 28 from a visit to the United States.

Sixteen retired Army generals and two Navy admirals currently are facing trial in civilian courts on hundreds of charges, including kidnapping, torture and murder, growing out of a brutal campaign conducted against leftist subversives during a 1976-83 military regime.

Six others, former military presidents Gens. Jorge Videla and Roberto Viola, former Navy commanders Adm. Emilio Massera and Armando Lambruschini and former Buenos Aires provincial police chiefs Gens. Ramon Camps and Osvaldo Ricchieri, were convicted of similar charges in 1984 and are serving terms from eight years to life at a military prison.

A government commission named by Menem's predecessor, former President Raul Alfonsin, determined that at least 8,900 Argentines disappeared during the anti-subversion campaign and were presumed dead. Human rights groups have accused the armed forces of genocide.

Menem made no reference to former leftist guerrilla leader Mario Firmenich, now serving a 30-year sentence for kidnapping and murder.



Texas gunslinger

President George Bush puts on a cowboy style hat that was given to him during the celebrations of Montana's Centennial in Helena. (Reuter wirephoto)

Peace Corps to be trained

Clean up world: Bush

HELENA, Mont., Sept 19, (Reuter): President George Bush, calling the environment a global issue, announced yesterday that starting next year, the US Peace Corps would be trained to tackle environmental problems.

"Beginning in 1990, as part of their standard preparation for duty, Peace Corps volunteers will be trained ... to deal with a full range of environmental challenges," he said, referring to the young men and women who volunteer to work in developing nations to teach American know-how.

Bush, who made the announcement at a rally celebrating the 100th anniversary of Montana's statehood, said training would be provided by the government's environmental protection agency and cover such topics as water pollution prevention, waste disposal, reforestation and pesticide management.

"The nations of the world must make common cause in defence of the environment. And I promise you this nation will take the lead," Bush said in prepared remarks.

"We're working hard to clean up America. But we can't stop there. We've got to work with the rest of the world to preserve the planet," he added.

Bush, using a two-day trip through the American West to dramatise his commitment to be an environmental president, called earlier yesterday for the planting of more trees in the United States to help reduce air pollution.

"It's not enough to stop dirtying the air. We've got to clean it up. And to help do that, we should remember the oldest, cheapest and most efficient air-purifier on earth — trees," he said in Sioux Falls at a celebration marking south Dakota's statehood centennial.

Bush said trees possessed a value that could not be matched even by high technology. "Trees can reduce the heat of a summer's day, quiet a highway's noise, feed the hungry, provide shelter from the wind and warmth and winter," he said.

Bush originally had planned to visit the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska during the trip to the West, but canceled that trip amid continuing criticism of the cleanup effort.

Drugs to dominate debate at UN

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 19, (Reuter): With the cold war apparently drawing to an end, the confrontational debates that once marked the United Nations General Assembly are giving way to discussion of more global issues such as drugs, environment and the world economy.

These problems are expected to dominate much of the debate among major powers as well as the Third World majority in the assembly, which formally opens its 44th session today.

Nevertheless, serious regional conflicts remain unresolved. The more than 150 resolutions before the assembly reflect the world body's concern with Afghanistan, Cambodia, Central America, Lebanon, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Gulf.

In Africa, the biggest UN peacekeeping operation in decades, to supervise Namibia's transition to independence from South Africa, reaches a climax during the session with elections for a constituent assembly set for November.

The United Nations has more than 6,000 troops, police and civilians involved in the operation which costs more than \$400 million, in addition to the UN's regular budget of over \$800 million.

"Anything could happen there," one Western diplomat said. "Every week it's a miracle to get to the end of it without something else happening."

First on the agenda is the election of Nigeria's UN Ambassador, Joseph Garba, 46, a former foreign minister, as assembly president.

The presidency rotates among the UN five regional groups and Garba was the unanimous choice of African states. He succeeds Dante Caputo, former foreign minister of Argentina, elected last year as Latin America's representative.

The annual general debate, when heads of state, prime ministers and foreign ministers deliver major speeches, begins next Monday with a heavy Latin American representation and a presentation from US President George Bush.

The United States, Britain, Brazil and Colombia and other nations are all expected to call for world-wide action to control international drug trafficking.

The environment will be the main topic of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's speech when she comes to the assembly next month.

However, global action to protect the environment will not be the preserve of the wealthier nations.

The non-aligned countries have already made it clear they will propose an annual fund to protect the environment as well as demand action to ease the \$1.3 trillion debt burden of developing countries.

Bush warns drug lords of retaliation

Tight security around White House

HELENA, Montana, Sept 19, (UPI): President Bush has warned the fugitive leaders of the Colombian cocaine cartels that any attempt to export their drug war to the United States would "bring down the total wrath of the American people and the American government."

Despite a decision to tighten security around members of his family, Bush said he is "not afraid" of threats from the Colombian drug lords because of "great confidence in the selflessness and in the thoroughness of the intelligence community and the secret service."

While Bush and administration officials say there is no concrete cause for worry, there has been a noticeable security increase in recent days around the White House and surrounding the president's movements.

Secret service agents also have moved in to protect members of the Bush family, including his daughter and five sons.

During a news conference yesterday Bush told reporters: "I can't say I'm totally unconcerned, but I can't give you any hard evidence that should further alarm the American people in this regard."

Bush was speaking to reporters in the chamber of the Montana senate after attending a state centennial celebration.

Bush was questioned on the drug issue as Congress continued to debate the cost and financing of the \$7.9 billion anti-drug programme he laid out in Sept 5 televised speech.

On the same day that Defence Secretary Dick Cheney outlined an expanded role for the US military — at home and abroad — in the war on drugs, Bush confessed to some frustration in seeing his national drug strategy bogged down by talk of dollars and funding arrangements.

Insisting he had fit a comprehensive anti-drug strategy "into a sound financial proposition," Bush said, "I urge the Congress to get on with it."

Bush praised Colombian President Virgilio Barco for "doing his level best" to break the grip of the cocaine trade on Colombia. While aware of "speculation" that the cocaine cartel leaders might retaliate against Americans, Bush said, "there is no hard intelligence evidence of such targeting."

"Let me lay that one out there to rest," Bush said. "But clearly, any such action would, I think, just bring down the total wrath of the American people and the American government."

Cheney presented an anti-drug yesterday that would expand the military role in detecting narcotics and training foreign forces, but he said US soldiers would not make arrests or raids.

"This can be a risky business," Cheney said in announcing the guidelines at a Pentagon news conference. "I hope none of our people are hurt in the process, but I can't guarantee it."

Cheney said he ordered US commanders to come up with specific plans by Oct 15 for "a substantial Caribbean counter-narcotics task force, with appropriate airlines and ships, to help reduce the flow of drugs from Latin America."

He also ordered them to prepare a plan to "deploy appropriate forces" within the United States to help law enforcement agencies, probably along the border with Mexico.

Finally, he called for the North American aerospace defence command, Norad, to develop specific plans for increasing the detection of illegal drug traffic to the United States, and he told other commanders to work with South American countries to help stop the narcotics smugglers at the source.

Cheney would not estimate how much his plan would cost, but it was noted President Bush earmarked about \$300 million to help South America's Andean nations in his \$7.9 billion federal anti-drug plan unveiled on Sept 5.

"At the very least," Cheney said, "deploying appropriate elements of the armed forces, with the primary mission of cutting off the flow of drugs, will immediately complicate the challenge of getting illegal drugs into America."

The defence secretary said "a few hundred" US military men and women likely will be involved in the effort in Latin America and more teams of US advisers probably will be sent to Peru, Bolivia and Colombia.

Seven teams of military advisers totalling fewer than 50 people are currently in those three cocaine-producing countries, according to the Pentagon.

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Cheney at a news conference. (Reuter wirephoto)

Ex-minister dies: A former British Conservative minister died today in London hospital, his family said.

Sir Alex Fletcher, 60, died in the Royal Westminster Hospital after a heart attack.

He was a former Scottish office minister and a consumer affairs minister at the department of trade and industry.

He entered parliament in 1973.

Under the Thatcher government in the early 1980s, he helped steer through the financial services act which modernised the stock exchange and financial centres in London. (Kuna)

First women navigators: Three women were today beginning their training to become the first female navigators in the UK to fly for the British Royal Air Force.

The three were the first to benefit from the new British Ministry of Defence guidelines which paved the way for women pilots and navigators in the RAF.

Although the women, who were introduced to the tough 64-week training programme yesterday, will be trained as navigators, they will not be allowed to fly fighter aircraft.

The British Ministry believe that the time is not yet right for women to fly in aircraft capable of carrying and firing weapons.

They eventually will fly support planes like the Hercules transport, after they go for a further year of aircraft training. (Kuna)

Education survey: A 50-state survey by the National Governors' Association indicated yesterday that US schools have two great challenges: Raising the level of learning and keeping the buildings from crumbling.

The association's annual report on state education reform efforts found that governors' top priority in that area is improving education at all levels — from pre-kindergarten through higher education — and that states are a "fertile ground for experimentation and innovation."

While academic achievements are the main focus, the report said the maintenance needs of school facilities have increased 64 per cent since 1983, amounting to \$41 billion for school maintenance and repairs.

The anticipated cost for new or renovated schools is \$84 billion, the report said.

Historically, school districts have controlled the financing and operation of school buildings, but several states are considering measures to provide state support for local school construction costs, the report said.

Price reduced: A 20 per cent reduction in the price of the anti-AIDS drug AZT yesterday was not enough to bring it within reach of those who need it, AIDS activists said.

The British drugs company Burroughs Wellcome PLC, said it had cut the price of AZT, sold under the brand name Retrovir, because the increasing number of patients had reduced the product's early financial risk.

"We are pleased to see the price lowered but we feel that, to be fair and to put AZT within the reach of most people with AIDS, the price needs to be reduced much further," said Mervyn Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research in New York.

US Health and Human Services secretary Louis Sullivan said the price cut was a welcome move.

AZT is the only anti-AIDS drug sanctioned by the US government. It has been approved for sale in more than 60 countries and is taken by more than 20,000 patients. (Reuter)

Quake felt in Mexico: An earthquake registering 4.5 on the Richter Scale hit southern Mexico earlier yesterday, the National Seismic Service reported.

There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

The Geophysical Institute of Mexico's National Autonomous University said the quake struck at 5:32 am (0332 GMT) in the Tehuantepec Isthmus, 465 miles (750 kilometers) southeast of Mexico City.

Francisco Clemente, a Red Cross spokesman in the city of Tehuantepec, told the Associated Press by telephone that the quake was mildly felt in the area. (AP)

AIDS infected prisoners: Blood tests of prison and jail inmates across the United States show that about one in 24 is infected with the AIDS virus, fewer than expected, researchers said yesterday.

The study is the first to try to estimate the prevalence of AIDS in the US prison population. Dr. Ford Brewer of the John Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore,

11,193 inmates in the study came from 10 prisons and jails.

"They were selected to give us a pretty good overall picture" of the extent of AIDS infection in inmates, Brewer said at a meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, where he presented his results.

Of the inmates tested, 476, or 4.25 per cent, were infected with AIDS, Brewer reported. Smaller local studies by others had found infection rates of up to 3.2 per cent among prisoners, with the exception of one New York City study that found 17.4 per cent of inmates were infected, Brewer said. (AP)

Anglicans accepting idea of papal primacy: Runcie

ROME, Sept 19, (Reuter): Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, who makes his first official visit to the Vatican this month, said in an interview more Anglicans were accepting the idea of papal primacy in a reunified church.

The Anglican primate also said in the interview with the Italian Catholic magazine Il Regno that the issue of women priests in some Anglican churches should not cool relations with Roman Catholics.

"Anglicans are beginning to recognise and favourably accept in the office of Bishop of Rome (the Pope) the universal primacy," Runcie told the magazine. An advice copy of the interview was made available yesterday ahead of publication in next week's edition.

Runcie, who will hold five meetings with the Pope during his September 29—October 2 trip, said he personally would accept some kind of papal authority "linked to a renewed ecumenical and universal primacy."

But he said much work still had to be done in dialogue with Catholics, which began in 1966 on the historic role of the papacy and panel authority.

In 1968 the general Synod of the Church of England, mother of the 70-million-strong international Anglican community, approved documents which envisaged the Pope acting as a universal primate in any reunion between the two churches.



مكتبة من المجلات

INTERNATIONAL

Colombia orders arrest of 2 Israelis

BOGOTA, Sept. 19. (Reuters): A judge issued an arrest warrant yesterday for the head of an Israeli security firm who has been accused of training hit squads for Colombian drug lords, the domestic news agency Colprensa said.

It said Yair Klein, head of the Hod Hahani spearhead security company, was charged with criminal conspiracy.

The news report, which a Justice Ministry spokeswoman was unable to confirm, said a warrant had also been issued for the arrest of Avik Axer, also of Israel.

Klein has been accused in reports published in Colombia and abroad of training paramilitary groups and hit squads linked to Colombia's ruthless cocaine cartels who declared war last month in response to a new government operation against drug traffickers.

Klein said today he would go to Bogota and stand trial if formally charged.

The former Army colonel, who is back in Israel, has said that he trained farmers in Colombia but denied any links to drug lords or their henchmen.

The Colprensa report said Colombia's national intelligence agency had requested the help of Interpol, the international police co-ordinating agency, to ensure Klein's arrest.

Allegations of Klein's involvement with drug lords were first carried by NBC television in the United States. Since then the Colombian government has publicly acknowledged that British, Israeli and American mercenaries had been linked to the drug cartels.

Colombia's defence and interior ministers are scheduled to appear in the US Congress to answer questions about the alleged activity of foreign mercenaries in Colombia.

Peruvian police, using helicopters piloted by Americans from a new anti-drug base, destroyed a clandestine airstrip yesterday and seized 110 pounds (50 kg) of cocaine, police said.

General Juan Zarate, chief of the anti-drug police force, told reporters at the US-built base in the Amazon jungle that during the weekend police arrested seven people — three Peruvians and four Colombians — and charged them with smuggling cocaine.

"Speed is the key to safety," he told the first group of journalists allowed to visit the Santa Lucia base since it began operations 10 days ago.

The heavily-fortified base deep in the Amazon jungle is at the centre of the US war against the drug trade in Peru, a major grower of coca which is used to produce cocaine.

Zarate said American pilots landed four US Huey helicopters with Peruvian police aboard on the dirt airstrip near the Huallaga river.

The police used plastic explosives that blew crater 20 feet (about 6 metres) long and 12 feet (four metres) deep in the runway, he said.

Less than 10 minutes later, the helicopters were airborne again. Zarate said the helicopters were armed with M-60 machine-guns and carried gunners at the door to attack drug traffickers and the Maoist Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso) guerrillas who are paid to protect them.

Two crew members of a Danish freighter linked to an alleged Caribbean cocaine-smuggling operation were ordered held without bond in Miami yesterday.

US Magistrate Peter Palermo ruled Bent Mortensen, 47, and Bent Nissen, 46, posed a danger of flight and placed them in the federal metropolitan correctional centre south of Miami.

Five other crew members of the 236-foot (72-metre) Nerna were ordered held without bond last week.

A US marshal apparently has issued himself a 55,000-dollar Mercedes-Benz seized in a drug bust for use as a company car, a newspaper reported.

The car that has been driven to and from work by Basil "Stu" Baker, US marshal for the southern district of Texas, was seized last year from a Jamaican drug dealer, the Houston Chronicle reported.

DC-10 remains safe to fly: FAA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Reuters): The US Federal Aviation Administration considers the DC-10 a safe aircraft despite the crash last July that killed 112 people, the head of the agency told Congress today.

"I believe it is important that I assure you and the public that the FAA considers the DC-10 to be a safe aircraft," administrator James Busey told a Senate aviation subcommittee hearing.

"I would stress that we have no safety information which would cause us to consider grounding the

Demonetize dollar to thwart drug dealers Foreign genes pose no threat

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17. (AP): Former treasury secretary Donald T. Regan proposed yesterday that the government change the colour or size of \$50 and \$100 bills to frustrate drug dealers with big accumulations of currency.

Under Regan's proposal, the government would announce that the old bills would be worthless in 10 days.

When people went to banks to exchange their bills

for the new currency, records would be made of all transactions involving more than \$1,000 forcing drug dealers to either give up vast fortunes or expose themselves to scrutiny by law enforcement agencies.

"This would panic those with huge cash holdings," Regan said in an article written for the opinion page of the New York Times.

"If the cash is legitimate, no one should have any fear. Yes, it might cause confusion for a couple of

months, but what honest citizen wouldn't be willing to put up with a little inconvenience so as to trap these criminals?" Regan wrote.

"This would hit the criminals where it hurts most — in the pocketbook."

Additionally, Regan proposed that the government seek an agreement of all central banks in industrialized nations to instruct member banks not to accept deposits "from known, or suspected, drug

dealers and not to do business with any banks — Latin, Caribbean, Asian or wherever, that accept drug money."

He also proposed that President George Bush ask leaders of the 200 biggest American banks and savings institutions to pledge "not to accept deposits from drug dealers, whether overlords or street pushers."

Barco for crusade against drug mafia

More blasts rock Bogota

BOGOTA, Sept. 19. (Reuters): President Virgilio Barco has urged Colombians to join in a nationwide crusade against drug lords as more bombs believed set by their henchmen rocked the capital.

"Colombia's enemies are trying to break society's back through violence," Barco said in a statement yesterday.

"Never before was national participation in this struggle so necessary. Unity against common enemy — the criminal international drug trafficking organisation — must come before the natural differences that exist between good Colombians."

"Now is not the time for opportunism, egotism, or the defence of private interests against the supreme interests of the nation. It is the hour of greatness," Barco said.

The president called the crackdown on drug barons "a crusade for democracy and peace in which every citizen must be a combatant for morality and the fatherland."



A police explosives team examines a possible car bomb in front of the US embassy in Bogota. (Reuters wirephoto)



Jorge Iglesias turns away with a grimace from the destruction caused to a Bogota bank by a bomb Sept. 17. He was inside the bank when the explosion occurred. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bid to trap drug buck

G-7 begins work

PARIS, Sept. 19. (AP): Experts from 15 countries began work today to co-ordinate their attack on the key aspect of the world-wide drug problem — the laundering of profits from illegal narcotics.

The one-day meeting was largely organisational and was characterised by participants officials as "a first exchange of views on the measures needed to fight money laundering."

The experts decided to organise their work around three themes — evaluation of the money laundering phenomenon, reinforcement of mutual judicial assistance and reinforcement of administrative co-operation.

The effort was mandated by the leaders of the world's seven richest democracies during their summit meeting in July. In the final communiqué of the summit, the seven noted that the drug problem had reached "devastating proportions" and proposed an international task force to hit at the traffickers' profits.

French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy estimated that between \$200 billion and \$400 billion are produced by the drug traffic every year. This illicit money finds its way back into the world's economy through numerous complicated schemes involving bogus companies and countless bank transfers.

A senior US Treasury Department official, who spoke on condition he not be identified further, said: "It is hard to find an issue that has galvanised the world's attention as much as the drug issue has. It's a truly global issue."

This meeting, the first of a series, "represents the most prominent recognition of the fact that in order to get your arms around the drug problem, you have to hit the economic and financial side of the house," the US official said. "Like global commerce, there really is no boundary, no water's edge."

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Cambodia faces civil war after pullout

PHNOM PENH, Sept 19. (Agencies): The President of Phnom Penh's National Assembly warned today that Cambodia faced civil war after this month's final withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

Che Sim spoke a day after Prime Minister Hun Sen flew to Bangkok.

Che Sim, a senior member of the ruling party, urged foreign countries to stop arming Cambodian guerrillas, saying they would be responsible for any increased bloodshed.

"When all the Vietnamese troops withdraw from our country, the biggest problem remaining ... is that the international community must urgently take action to prevent civil war," he said in a speech.

Vietnam has promised to pull out its last 26,000 soldiers from Cambodia between Thursday and September 26.

Che Sim was speaking at a rare public gathering of senior Cambodian Party and government officials and top Vietnamese military men.

Awarded

He and President Heng Samrin awarded medals during the two-hour ceremony in a convention hall in the capital to hundreds of departing Vietnamese soldiers, many in ill-fitting uniforms.

Children dressed in blue and white uniforms placed plaid scarves around each soldier's neck.

China is the main arms supplier of the Khmer Rouge, the biggest of three guerrilla groups fighting along the Cambodian-Thailand border.

Thailand, Singapore, the United States, Britain and France give assistance to two smaller, non-communist groups.

Bangkok has played a key role in the decade-long conflict by providing the guerrillas sanctuary and permitting foreign arms supplies to be transported to them across Thai territory.

Peace talks among Cambodia's warring factions collapsed in Paris last month, but Chatichai has been making last ditch attempts to revive peace efforts, diplomats say.

Che Sim said Phnom Penh had shown it wanted an end to the fighting with its policy of national reconciliation, but the guerrillas had destroyed all chance for peace.

He praised the departing Vietnamese forces, saying Hanoi had been the only country to come to Cambodia's assistance during the brutal four-year rule of the Khmer Rouge.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in December 1978, toppled the Khmer Rouge and put Heng Samrin's government in power.

Successful

Meanwhile, Hun Sen met Thai leaders today.

The 38-year-old Cambodian leader, who flew to Bangkok earlier in the day, said after about 90 minutes of talks with Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan: "It was very successful."

He said they discussed the possibility of a ceasefire in the 10-year conflict between his Vietnamese-backed forces and guerrilla groups dominated by the Khmer Rouge, which are supported by Thailand, China and the West.

Hun Sen, who was accompanied by his Defence Minister, Tie Banh, was unable to say more to waiting reporters at his hotel as he was cordoned off by ranks of Thai security police.

Making his third visit to Bangkok this year, he travelled by Cambodian military helicopter across the frontier to the town of Aranyaprathet and by Thai helicopter to Bangkok.

Chatichai, who is personally mediating to end the fighting on Thailand's eastern border, met leaders of the three guerrilla groups last week in an apparently vain attempt to persuade them to accept a ceasefire.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, architect of the policy to break Hanoi's isolation by settling the Cambodia conflict, was also in Bangkok and met Chatichai's aides yesterday.

Before leaving for home tomorrow, Thach was due to meet Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila, who has been a standard bearer of non-communist Southeast Asia's tough anti-Vietnam policy.

Hanoi's military spokesman declared today their 10-year mission a success.

"We want into Cambodia to save the Cambodian people from genocide ... and at the same time to defend ourselves. That was our strategic aim," General Nguyen Van Thai told a news conference.

"We consider this mission an accomplishment," he declared.

Minister's head must roll, Taiwan opposition

TAIPEI, Sept 19. (AP): Taiwan's parliament convened a new session today and the opposition immediately demanded the resignation of Justice Minister Hsiao Tien-Tzang, who has been linked to an influence-peddling scandal involving a golf course.

Hsiao, 55, justice minister since last year, has denied claims that he helped influence officials to approve a license for the course in a district where

golf courses are prohibited.

Prosecutor Peng Shao-Chin said earlier he planned to charge Hsiao with influence-peddling. But yesterday, the Taiwan High Court intervened and ordered the case transferred to other prosecutors, explaining that Peng had overstepped his authority by demanding Hsiao's resignation.

Members of the governing Nationalist Party, which controls 230 of the 265 seats in the lawmaking

legislative Yuan, or parliament, later overruled a DPP motion to debate the scandal and Hsiao's resignation.

Meanwhile, about 500 demonstrators, most of them opposition Democratic Progressive Party members, held a three-hour rally outside the parliament building to demand the compulsory retirement of aged lawmakers who have refused to resign even though they last faced election 40 years

ago.

Most are supporters of the Nationalist Party, which froze them in office in 1949, when it lost a civil war on the China mainland, to perpetuate its claim that it is China's sole government.

Opposition politicians say the aged lawmakers should be forcibly retired to allow younger members to be elected. The opposition claims the government is reluctant to force retirement.

Chemical arms ban group proposed

CANBERRA, Sept 19. (Agencies): The United States proposed today an international body to monitor and help control the spread of chemical weapons.

Richard Clarke, assistant secretary of state, making the proposals at a 67-nation conference on chemical weapons, also asked other countries to admit they hold them.

Only the United States and the Soviet Union admit to stocks of the weapons, but both estimate the arms are also in the possession of about 20 other countries, including six in the Middle East.

It

would also help if other countries that possess such (chemical) weapons would also step forward and acknowledge the fact," Clarke said.

He told the opening of the four-day conference that an international agency of experts could "explore verification procedures, monitor and analyse trial inspections, explore methods of safely destroying chemical weapons."

The US move was backed by a self-police agreement by the United States chemical industry to monitor the sale of all chemicals capable of producing weapons, such as mustard gas.

The measures, covering some 175 US companies representing 90 per cent of US chemical producers, are to be put in place immediately, the conference was told by Ernest H. Drew of the board of directors of the Chemical Manufacturers Association.

He said the association would set up a database of production and procedures "and voluntarily report suspicious orders or inquiries for chemical weapons sensitive chemicals."

The self-monitoring, in liaison with government, is based on policing procedures in place in Europe, including West Germany, the Netherlands and Britain.

The two moves, both endorsed by the Soviet Union, precede US-Soviet talks later this week on an agreement to disclose and verify each other's chemical weapons capabilities.

After a year of bickering last summer, it is expected to be finalized at talks at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on September 22 and 23 between Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, conference sources said.

"We welcome the US technical monitoring proposal. We also welcome inspection of any of our chemical plants, any time, any place," chief Soviet delegate Nikita Smirnov, head of the department of arms control and disarmament, said.

"There should be no right to refuse an inspection."

The sweeping proposal encompasses random spot checks on chemical plants by either side, has aroused concern in the US chemical industry, wary that trade secrets might be exposed.

The United States has suggested a systematic checking procedure with prior notice. Sources from both sides at the conference anticipated differences could be resolved at the weekend talks.

The Canberra conference was called to give an impetus to 40-national talks in Geneva on setting up a convention to ban worldwide the production and use of chemical weapons.

The US proposal for an international technical experts group, to prepare the ground for a permanent checking body to be formed under any agreed world ban, will be discussed in Geneva in December.

New approach

The Bush administration, reflecting limits of power, is pursuing a new approach to regional conflict resolution stressing the role of local leaders and initiatives rather than US-led diplomacy, said a leading newspaper here yesterday.

According to the Washington Post, the Bush administration's assessment of its limited power appears to be reflected in its low-risk and low-profile approach to regional conflict resolution where other actors — individuals, organizations, nations or even Congress — are being allowed, or actively encouraged, to take the lead.

No to Sino-US normalcy

HELENA, Montana, Sept 19. (AP): US President George Bush said yesterday that now is not the time for "normalcy" in relations with China, despite a gradual increase in contacts since last summer's bloody crackdown on Beijing dissidents.

Asked about China, Bush responded: "No, no we're not in favor of normal relations, although he hoped he would soon see 'proper signals' from the Chinese leadership that would lead to improved relations.



Deng Xiaoping (right) greets former Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito in the Great Hall of People today. (Reuter wirephoto)

Basques arrested

Anti-ETA sweep

BILBAO, Sept 19. (AP): Paramilitary Civil Guards today arrested eight suspected Basque separatists, bringing to 34 the total number detained since an anti-terrorist sweep began on Saturday, a guard spokesman said.

The spokesman, who was not identified, said in keeping with custom, said guards made the arrests before dawn near the northern Basque city in the towns of Durango, Guernica and Galdacano.

ETA, an acronym in Basque standing for homeland and liberty, seeks independence from Spain for the three province northern Basque region.

Since it started its campaign of violence 21 years ago, ETA has claimed responsibility for killing more than 600 people.

On Saturday, the civil guards arrested two alleged ETA members at a highway rest stop in Irun, near the border with France, in a shootout that began after the guards surprised them in a truck as they travelled towards the French border.

In the shootout, the civil guards killed Juan Oyarzabal and Manuel Uriarte, members of an ETA unit called Comando Araba. Three civil guards were injured.

After the shooting, civil guards arrested 26 alleged ETA members, located several ETA safehouses and seized 300 kilos (660 pounds) of explosives and numerous arms and ammunition.

Civil guard director Juan Roldan told reporters Sunday, the operation was "a brilliant success and a major blow to ETA."

ETA claimed responsibility yesterday for the Sept 12 assassination in Madrid of Carmen Tagle, 44, a top prosecutor of the national court which has jurisdiction over terrorism cases.

Europe may build second satellite

PARIS, Sept 19. (Reuter): The European Space Agency is considering building a second version of its \$350-million star-gazing satellite which was crippled by engine failure after its launch last month.

Brian Taylor, head of the agency's astrophysics division, told Reuters he had been authorised to contact the French electronics firm Matra for cost estimates.

"No decision has been taken. We are putting together an estimate of how much a second one would cost," he said.

He said a second satellite would be much cheaper than the first, because there would be no development and design costs.

Cost estimates would be presented in the space agency in November for a decision. Some sources at the agency say that building a new satellite could mean scrapping other projects.

Despite last month's disappointment, Taylor said scientists had not given up all hope on the original Hippocrate satellite, built by Matra and launched by an Ariane rocket on Aug 8.

White-wash on bloodbath

Workers construct a statue on Tiananmen Square today in preparation for National Day celebrations on Oct 1. The statue composed of a worker, soldier, peasant and intellectual, is part of a propaganda

campaign to remodel the image of Tiananmen Square in the wake of the Tiananmen student demonstrations. (Reuter wirephoto)

Filipino rebels step up raids

Day of killings

MANIL, Sept 19. (AP): Communist rebels killed five soldiers in a raid on a geothermal plant, and suspected Muslim insurgents killed nine people and wounded seven others in an ambush in the southern Philippines, the military and witnesses said today.

The military said four other communist rebels were slain in a clash with soldiers today in Nueva Ecija province, 50 miles (80 kms) north of Manila, bringing to 18 the number of people killed in two days.

A military report said five government troopers also were wounded in Monday's raid on a geothermal exploration site of the Philippine National Oil Co. in San Lorenzo Ruiz, about 140 miles (220 kms) southeast of Manila.

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Military officials have warned of a possible flare-up in the Muslim insurgency because rebels want to prevent

US to favour Hungary with trade benefits

WASHINGTON, Sept 19, (AP): The Commerce Department announced yesterday that the United States is prepared to provide Hungary with a wide series of business and economic benefits, including permanent most-favoured nation (MFN) trade status.

It would make Hungary the first Eastern European nation having such status since enactment of the Jackson-Vanik amendment in 1974 tying those benefits to free emigration policies, the department said.

Uproar grows as exodus goes on

EAST BERLIN, Sept 19, (Reuters): Inter-German bickering grew more shrill today as East German refugees continued to pour through Hungary to the West and East Berlin accused Bonn of organising the exodus.

East Germany said Bonn had "prepared in military style...and scrupulously executed" the westward flood of East Germans through Hungary in advance and said West German diplomats had disguised themselves as charity workers to help the plan.

The Communist Party daily *Neues Deutschland*, in an article headlined "Trade in humans," documented Western media reports and its own research on the exodus of more than 16,000 East Germans to the west since reformist Hungary threw open its border with Austria at midnight on Sept 10.

West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD), under fire in Bonn for contacts with East Berlin, attacked East Germany's stubborn orthodoxy and warned there could be further tension.

In an unusually tough statement, the party accused East Berlin of being incapable of even understanding the crisis leading about 100,000 refugees to leave the country this year.

But the SPD, which launched West Germany's "ostpolitik" detente policy two decades ago, said it would continue to seek a dialogue with East Germany and accused the Bonn government of worsening the situation by condemning its contacts.

East Germany also launched an unprecedented attack on radical Soviet politician Boris Yeltsin, calling his recent remarks suggesting international regulation of the East German refugee exodus intolerable.

Hundreds of other East bloc refugees are joining the exodus to the West. An Austrian police spokesman said 737 Romanians, 112 Czechoslovaks and "a number of Bulgarians and Soviets" had reached Austria illegally in the past four weeks.

Czechoslovakia has taken steps to block the flow of East Germans crossing its borders to try to join an exodus to the West via Hungary.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Ivan Kujhanek said Czechoslovak border guards were turning back East Germans bound for Hungary if they did not have the right documents.

Refugees arriving in West Germany said armed Czechoslovak border guards were seizing identity papers and car keys from East Germans suspected of trying to flee.

They said many refugees now had to swim the River Danube to reach Hungary, where they could take coaches to the West.

Nine Hungarian border guards have been charged with smuggling East German citizens across the Hungarian-Austrian border, the state news agency MTI reported today.

The Hungarian news agency quoted the military prosecutor's office in the town of Győr as saying the guards had been paid "significant sums" for helping East Germans across the border in the past few weeks.

East German police arrested about 100 people attending an evening prayer service in Leipzig's Nikolai church, sources in East Berlin said today.

Poland has been a member of the Comecon, the communist equivalent of the EEC, and experts said it was the first step by Poland toward closer future links with the Western market.

Dumas said the agreement was the first move to help Poland which has been experiencing its biggest economic crisis since the end of World War II.

Convent near death camp must be moved

VATICAN CITY, Sept 19, (AP): The Vatican said today that a Roman Catholic convent of Carmelite nuns near the Auschwitz death camp in Poland should be moved to another site, as Jewish groups have asked.

Breaking its silence on an issue that has severely strained Jewish-Catholic relations, the Vatican said it would help to pay for the prayer centre in which the nuns would live.

A February 1987 accord between Jewish and Roman Catholic representatives stipulated that the nuns would be moved to the Prayer centre from a convent just outside Auschwitz.

Jews have objected to the presence of nuns and Christian religious symbols at a site where millions of Jews were

murdered by the Nazis during World War II.

However, the Polish primate, Cardinal Josef Glemp, had called for renegotiating the agreement and said the Polish Church did not have the money to build a new home for the nuns.

The agreement, signed in Geneva, called for the nuns to be moved by Feb 22 but the deadline passed and the nuns remained.

Today, the Vatican's commission for religious relations with Judaism said in a communiqué that it was pleased with a declaration from Poland's bishops earlier this month that Roman Catholics and Jewish groups should resume talks on building the prayer centre.

Yugoslavia and Poland also have MFN status, but obtained theirs before 1974.

In addition, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said the United States is prepared to improve tariff treatment of Hungarian products, extend development programmes and create a \$25 million fund to help create private business in the communist country.

"This step is an important part of implementing President George Bush's goal of building an American partnership

with Hungary," Mosbacher said in a statement after a meeting with Hungarian Trade Minister Tamas Beck in Budapest.

A copy was made available in Washington.

"Such an agreement is fundamental for private sector business because it would contain investment protection guarantees which boost confidence and open the way to substantially increased US private investment in Hungary," Mosbacher said.

He said Beck agreed to open negotia-

tions on the proposals.

Mosbacher said the proposals include granting Hungary permanent most-favoured-nation trade status in October if the Hungarian parliament, as expected, enacts legislation on freedom of emigration by the end of September.

■ The ruling Communist Party and several opposition groups agreed late yesterday on key draft legislation detailing a peaceful transition to a multi-party system.

Party Congress moved up to make Gorby strong

Attempt to cool ethnic tensions

MOSCOW, Sept 19, (AP): The Communist Party's leadership, meeting today in an attempt to cool ethnic tensions across the Soviet Union, moved up the party's next Congress to October 1990, giving President Mikhail Gorbachev his best chance yet to transform the party.

The central committee of 5,000 delegates began meeting to discuss ethnic tensions that stretch from the Baltic coast to the Chinese border, Tass news agency said. The central committee is the party's policy-making body.

But the first thing it did was move up the party Congress, usually held

every five years. The last one—the party's 27th—was held in February 1986, less than a year after Gorbachev took power. By party regulations, the next Congress would not have had to take place before early 1991.

The Congress, theoretically, is the 20-million-member party's most important gathering that outlines policy and determines membership of the central committee and ruling politburo. It historically has reviewed the leadership's five-year economic plans.

"The decision to convene the Congress at an earlier date is dictated by the need to thoroughly update the party itself, with regard for its new role as the political vanguard of society during the state of restructuring," Gorbachev told the central committee.

He said the need to renew the party reached the central committee, itself.

Gorbachev expressed concern that the party is lagging behind the political reforms he has set in motion, including shifting more political power to elected government bodies.

"Real life, the reconstruction forces are going at such a rhythm that we often cannot catch up with them," the 58-year-old party chief and Soviet President told the central committee.

He said many party organisations were slow to grasp the need for change, and "in this, we lose a great deal."

"We cannot leave things as they are, especially since fundamental economic and social processes are unfolding and an ideological and political struggle is under way over key problems of social development," Gorbachev said.

Some party stalwarts have said they fear the Communist Party—enshrined by the Soviet constitution as the country's "leading force"—is losing its grip on power as the legislature strengthens under Gorbachev's political reforms and frustrated citizens start taking local power into their own hands.

In a sign of frustration with top party bureaucrats, many of them, including a politburo candidate member, were defeated in March when they ran in the country's first contested legislative elections in more than seven decades.

Gorbachev said in July the key question for the Communist Party was renewing and improving its personnel. Changes must be made all the way up to the Politburo, he said, and suggested the party Congress be moved ahead.

Baker will be Shevardnadze's host at a lodge near Jackson Hole, Wyoming, for two days of talks on Friday and Saturday. They are expected to make progress toward an agreement on chemical weapons.

Bush criticized the Kremlin for sending what he called increased amounts of arms to Nicaragua, a reference to reports that Soviet weapons were being shipped through Cuba despite Gorbachev's promise to end the arms flow to Nicaragua.

"That's not a kind and gentle approach to this hemisphere," he said, adding that US officials intended to raise the issue with Shevardnadze.

Bush said his administration is not retreating from the Strategic Defense Initiative, but realizes the "star wars" programme will not create an "impenetrable shield" against nuclear attack.

During a news conference, Bush agreed with an assessment by Vice-President Dan Quayle about the Strategic Defense Initiative missile defence system.

In a speech last week, Quayle paraded company with former president Ronald Reagan, who envisioned an astrodome in the sky protecting America against incoming missiles. Quayle called the star wars concept "political jargon."

Poland's communist lawmakers have formally asked Parliament to write their party's leading role out of the constitution, and the Democratic Party is seeking to restore Poland's pre-communist name and put the crown back atop the Polish eagle, the state news agency said.

Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki was on hand in the council of ministers building when the signing ceremony took place.

Solidarity newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* welcomed the signing of the agreement and the visit by Mosbacher as an expression of a better understanding of Polish economic problems.

The world has begun to understand that the permanent changes in Poland have been in the interest of everybody," the paper said.

Poland's communist lawmakers have formally asked Parliament to write their party's leading role out of the constitution, and the Democratic Party is seeking to restore Poland's pre-communist name and put the crown back atop the Polish eagle, the state news agency said.

He said the "first move"



Lt Rockman who yesterday called for the resignation of South African Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok when the latter failed to meet coloured police officers. (Reuter wirephoto)



Vlok shakes hands with riot police after urging them to be firm. (Reuter wirephoto)

Marketing of De Klerk

SA presents a glossy image

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 19, (Reuters): South Africa has promised its people a new style of government and a period of decisive reform when F.W. de Klerk is sworn in as the republic's president on Wednesday.

Top of his agenda will be negotiations with the black majority and boosting the country's battered economy, state-run radio South Africa said today in a daily commentary which voices government policy.

That presumably includes the 12-member Politburo and the 251-member central committee itself.

Between Congresses, the Soviet leadership can remove central committee members and promote candidate members to full membership, but cannot name new members.

At the last Congress in 1986, Gorbachev succeeded in replacing 41 per cent of the voting members of the central committee. Appointees of former President Leonid Brezhnev, however, remained a significant force.

Their ranks were considerably thinned in April at the last central committee meeting with the resignations of 83 voting members and 27 candidates, or non-voting members.

On Monday, Armenian activists appealed to Moscow to order an end to what they call an economic blockade imposed on their Caucasus mountain republic by neighbouring Azerbaijan.

De Klerk's critics question whether the pace of reform will satisfy the voteless black majority or ease foreign pressures for more economic sanctions against South Africa.

De Klerk has made no promises on whether he will grant any of these demands soon, although officials say the possible release of Mandela will be a matter of priority for the new government.

A key figure in the cabinet is Gerrit Viljoen, a sophisticated negotiator who has been charged with promoting dialogue with black leaders.

Efforts by the Botha administration to draw blacks into negotiations failed to attract figures who have much credibility in the black community.

South African police used a new hands-off approach today to stop a protest march by black hospital workers.

About 300 demonstrators set out from Johannesburg general hospital towards the city's supreme court. After walking one km (half a mile), they were confronted by police.

■ South Africa's biggest trade union said police had arrested one of its key officials and accused the government of conducting a secret war of attrition against black activists.

The 260,000-member National Union of Mineworkers (Num) said police detained its press officer Jerry Majatladi on Saturday and were holding him under emergency laws, which permit indefinite detention without trial.

■ A police lieutenant who has stirred controversy by accusing white colleagues of brutality against blacks said that the law and order minister should resign.

Refugees airlifted back to Namibia

GENEVA, Sept 19, (Reuters): More than 41,000 refugees have returned to Namibia ahead of next month's independence elections in an airlift that stretched all the way to Australia, a United Nations official said today.

"The four-month operation has enjoyed the support of the international community and has been extremely successful," said Nicolas Bwakira, who heads the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Namibia.

He told a news conference it was the first time so many people had been repatriated in such a short time despite many obstacles, including the vast size of the territory.

Bwakira said the main difficulty the UN faced before the airlift started was convincing South Africa, which ruled Namibia in defiance of United Nations resolutions, to grant an amnesty to returning political opponents and preventing harassment once they were back.

"But once the negotiations were over the airlift went fairly smoothly," he said.

He said 452 UN charter flights had transported refugees and their personal belongings from 41 countries that included the United States and Australia.

The bulk—35,000—were airlifted from neighbouring Zambia and Angola which some 50,000 Cuban troops evacuated under a complex series of deals enabling Namibia to move towards independence.

Bwakira said almost two-thirds of the refugees were of voting age and would be able to take part in the Nov 6 election which will give the territory a democratically elected government. They had until Sept 23 to register.

The airlift was one of the major elements in Namibia's independence process which is being supervised by the UN's Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG).

■ Angola and Zaire have agreed to the voluntary repatriation of up to 50,000 refugees living in the two southern African countries. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees announced yesterday.

■ Heikko Keto, regional delegate for the UNHCR, said 2,500 Zaireans living in Angola and 2,500 Angolans living in Zaire would be sent home during the first phase of the exercise, starting Sept 24.

■ Jonas Savimbi, one of the eight African heads of state seeking an end to Angola's 15-year civil war, have drawn up a declaration which they hope rebel leader Jonas Savimbi will accept, official sources said.

■ Savimbi, who heads the rightist Unita rebels backed by South Africa and the United States, declined to attend yesterday's one-day peace summit in Zaire.

The summit hoped to revive a collapsed ceasefire agreed in June but details of the declaration were not divulged.

■ Lesotho's magistrate yesterday ordered a member of Lesotho's ruling military council and the country's police commissioner to testify at an inquest on a student whom military strongman Justin Lekhanya says he shot dead to prevent a rape.

Lawyers for the family of George Ramone, 20, who was gunned down by Major-General Lekhanya on Dec 24, subpoenaed Colonel Thabo Letsie and police chief Lebiso Dingiswayo to test evidence given by Lekhanya last week.

Seabed ban reviewed

GENEVA, Sept 19, (Reuters): More than 100 nations today began a review of whether new technology could threaten a 17-year-old treaty banning nuclear weapons from the seabed.

The 10-day study is the third since the United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom signed the treaty in February 1971. It came into force in May 1972 and has since been ratified by 81 nations represented at the Geneva Conference.

Another 23 who have signed but not ratified the accord are attending the meeting along with nine non-signatories taking part as observers.

In a message read to delegates, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said the treaty recognised that scientific and technological progress opened possibilities for new military use of the ocean floor.

"This is why one of the main tasks of this conference is to conduct a thorough review of the current situation, taking into account relevant technological developments," he said.

Conference chairman Sergio de Queiroz Duarte of Brazil said some scope of the treaty from the present 12-mile coastal zone to encompass the entire ocean floor, about two-thirds of the earth's surface.

Jaber opens 'Kuwaiti days in Paris' today

KUWAIT, Sept 19. (Kuna): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Ahmed Al Sabah was quoted here today as saying that holding "Kuwaiti Days in Paris" aims at acquainting the French people with Kuwait's history and their potentials in different fields.

He told a local daily before his departure to Paris to inaugurate the exhibition tomorrow, that as the celebration is not a cultural week it is called "Kuwaiti Days."

On the possibility of repeating the event in other European capitals, he

minister said that the opportunity for holding Kuwaiti Days in different parts of Europe is possible but he added that it depends on how successful it will be in the French capital.

History

Regarding French days in Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber said that it concerns the French side, and Kuwait is ready to co-operate with France in this regard within the framework of bilateral cultural co-operation.

He noted that in "Kuwait in Paris"

there will be a number of lectures, seminars, and open debates on the Five-Year Plan in Kuwait and a seminar on Kuwait's history.

The inauguration ceremony will be attended by the French Cultural Minister, Kuwait's ambassador to Paris and a number of French officials, Arab poets and the director of the Paris-based Arab World Institute.

Attention

At the inauguration, the minister will deliver a speech on the occasion and its

aims, as well as highlight the good relationship between Kuwait and France.

Meanwhile, the assistant under-secretary for foreign information at the Ministry of Information Rida Al Feeli said that the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences would handle the show of scientific achievements and innovations developed in Kuwait, to reflect the progress of science and technology in the country and the attention given by top

government organs to research activities and researchers.

A special pavilion would be allocated for portraying the output of publications, printing and intellectual work in Kuwait, and that an exclusive symposium would be held next Thursday on the 'Development and the building of an Individual in Kuwait,' where a number of scholars, professors, scientists and academics would take part in an open dialogue, including senior figures from the University of Kuwait and related scientific and academic establishments.

N-war deterrent society founded

THE Kuwait Medical Society has hosted the first founding meeting for the establishment of the Kuwait Doctors Society for the Prevention of Nuclear War, under the chairmanship of the Planning Minister and acting Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi.

Awadi delivered a speech in which he stressed the need to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war and protect humanity from the devastating far-reaching effects of such wars on future posterity.

He attached great importance to spreading awareness on a wide global scale, within the framework of international efforts to avert the occurrence of such a war, pointing out that nuclear documentary movie entitled 'Zero Hour' had made a lot of noise in the world and filled all those who watched it with horrible premonitions about the destructive repercussions to be expected from the outbreak of nuclear war.

Conversation

Awadi said that the idea of involving doctors in efforts exerted in the political arena to avert mass destruction and horrible holocaust came into existence during a conversation dealing with this matter with a number of well-known English and American doctors a few years back.

He added that out of appreciation of this important step and as an active contribution to the world-wide anti-nuclear war awareness campaigns, Kuwait had decided to set up a society of doctors for the prevention of nuclear war.

He also said, "we as Arab doctors are very concerned about the irreparable damage and waste of life that could be the cost of nuclear war, regardless of the political overtones of the event. We as Arab doctors know for sure that Israel possesses such mass destructive weapons, therefore it was imperative to ensure a weighty Arab presence in the International Anti-Nuclear War Federation."

Nigerian envoy

THE Minister of Oil of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah yesterday received in his office, H.E. Mustapha Sheikh Saleh, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in the State of Kuwait. During the meeting, the two discussed Nigeria/Kuwait bilateral relations and other matters of mutual interest.

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Turkish envoy visits

Editor-in-Chief of Al Seyassah and Arab Times, Ahmed Al Jarallah, received at his office yesterday the Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait, Guner Oztek. They discussed the political situation in the region and the Kuwaiti mediation between Turkey and Bulgaria.

Co-op officials deplore increase in shop rents

Directors issue unresolved

A LOCAL daily interviewed a number of co-operative society directors to highlight their reaction towards the Ministry of Finance new decision regarding increasing rents of shops located at co-operative societies from 2.5 to 25 per cent.

Society directors urged the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to study the decision from all aspects due to its strong reflections on the co-operative movement in the country.

Mishari Hmoud Al Enizi, the deputy general director at Rawdha Co-operative Society said that he is against the decision due to the fact that most co-ops depend on shop profits to cover costs and to accomplish their objectives. He hoped that the finance minister will reconsider the decision for the good of governors. He said that the decision will have negative impacts on the economical and social sector of the country. Raising shop rents at co-ops will evidently adversely reflect on commodity prices charged to consumers.

Unreasonable

Abdul Mehseen Al Bader, the head of Yarmouk Co-operative Society rejected the ministry decision because he believes that it is unreasonable. Headed that the decision will negatively affect the performance of co-ops and consumers. He hoped that officials will study the decision from a realistic view point.

Mustafa Al Sarraf, the head of Jabriya Co-operative Society stated that the decision will remove a big portion from co-ops profits forcing them to raise consumer prices.

The head of Jahra Co-operative Society, Jazza

Fahad said that the decision will be a lethal blow to the development of the co-operative movement and recommended that the decision should be discussed by the Co-ops Union and the Ministry of Finance.

Salah Al Bin Ali, the head of Shamiya and Shuwaikh Co-operative Society commented that the decision came as a total surprise. He underscored the fact that many co-ops in the country depend on shop profits and raising shop rents will negatively affect the performance of economical and social services.

Directors

In a related development an official source at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour has ruled out any intention by the ministry to resolve the issue of boards of directors of co-operative societies at the moment for the purpose of re-election based on the new system.

The source, quoted by a local daily, said that the proposed new election system was still a draft bill pending endorsement by the Council of Ministers, adding that, even after endorsement of the draft bill which was expected to take place next year, the board of directors issue would not be resolved on one occasion.

The source also said that the new election system would be operational at the end of fiscal of each co-operative society, and that the purpose of the system was to optimise work performance level at the boards of directors to create constant competition for seats through annual elections.

Under the new election system, nine members would be elected on one occasion every three years to work as a team throughout this period.

The issue was raised when the Kuwait Central Bank conducted inspection raids on a number of money exchange companies operating in Kuwait.

19 exchange companies to be closed by ministry

DIRECTOR of Commercial Licences at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Yacoub Al Nasserallah announced yesterday that the Minister of Commerce and Industry will issue a decision next week withdrawing the commercial licences of 19 money-exchange companies for violating laws. He added that these companies were involved in carrying out business outside the duties granted to them by their licences obtained from the ministry. Nasserallah said that 24 violating money exchange companies were discovered by the Central Bank and the Ministry of Commerce. Only 5 of them signed pledges at the ministry not to repeat the violations in the future. The other 19 companies will have their licences withdrawn.

Rights

According to ministry laws, the minister of commerce and industry has the right to withdraw the licence of any company violating the laws with a provision of a period of three months to settle its position with its clients. Nasserallah said that some of the company licences were found to have been hired out to other persons which is a clear violation. According to the law, the owner of the licence must conduct the business.

He added that many other companies were found to have been dealing in unacceptable businesses like carrying out money transactions, accepting deposits and others, whereas the law states that they should carry out only selling and buying of currencies only in the local market.

He stressed that the withdrawal decision comes to curb all kinds of activities that violate local laws.

The issue was raised when the Kuwait Central Bank conducted inspection raids on a number of money exchange companies operating in Kuwait.

Education diplomas

THE dean of the Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies at Kuwait University Dr Ahmad Naser Edeen Al Ghandour has called for offering university graduates wishing to practise teaching, an education diploma. This will ensure that young Kuwaiti teaching cadre could be provided to meet the local teaching market requirements.

He told Seyassah that the College of Education and Basic Education and Faculty of Sharia should make advance planning to sort out functional duplication currently existing at the Department of Islamic Studies at the College of Basic Education.

A total of 50 students would be graduating from the Faculty of Sharia during the new academic year, and 200 others from the Faculty of Education.

Plans to diversify secondary education

No increase in fees

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for Planning and Development at the Ministry of Education, Rashed Al Hamad stressed that the ministry is currently conducting a comprehensive study with a view to streamlining the level of educational activities of the secondary stage.

Interviewed by a local daily, he commented that diversifying the scope of secondary education is the best method to provide students with better opportunities to select areas of studies ideally suited to their interests and talents.

Unification

Regarding the unification of education curricula, Hamad said that an agreement was made to build a unified curriculum for mathematics and the sciences. A supervisory committee in addition to other committees represented by GCC states were formed for this purpose. The undersecretary expressed satisfaction over the development of curricula.

Private fees

Meanwhile the assistant undersecretary for private education affairs at the Ministry of Education Dr Yaqoob Al Sharhah has denied any intended increase in this year's tuition fees at private schools.

He told a local daily that following the government's suspension of financial aid to private schools, parents would have to make full payments of tuition fees and bear the resultant difference.

He stressed the need for students to produce attested documents certifying their nationalities upon registration, such as passports and others. Students with no established nationality could only guarantee continuity at these schools through successive success.

He pointed out that students with no established nationality covered by the exception clause would be admitted into private schools after full payment of the tuition fees. They also join public schools, and that this exempted category of students included children of military personnel, orphans with brothers in the army, children of Kuwaiti wives to non-Kuwaiti husbands and sons of the border guards.

36 Aids patients so far

Two more carriers

AN official source at the Ministry of Health announced yesterday that two more Aids carriers were discovered recently in Kuwait. The two new carriers are Kuwaiti men who have undergone kidney transplant operation in India. The source warned the public from carrying out kidney transplants outside Kuwait before ensuring that the blood of the donor does not carry the killer virus.

The ministry has so far announced that it found 36 Aids carriers, most of them expatriates who were deported. There were only 5 carriers among Kuwaitis and a young Kuwaiti girl who died of Aids early this year after a blood transfusion in USA.

Design contract for interior HQ signed

NHA to implement project

By Sayed Ottman

DIRECTOR of Construction and installations Department at the Ministry of Interior, Col Mohammed Hassan Al Salem announced that the ministry has signed an initial contract for the designing of the Ministry of Interior's permanent building. The design is to be completed within 8 months followed by preparing a final design before the implementation of the project.

Interviewed by Arab Times/Seyassah, Col Salem said the design of the new ministry building will take into account security and future requirements and will be based on Arab Islamic architecture.

The ministry is keen to ensure speedy implementation of construction projects in order to transfer developed security services at any area in Kuwait. The interior minister is keen to ensure speed and accuracy in implementing these projects along with the ministry secretary who follows up the implementation stages.

Salem pointed out that the department is currently engaged in the implementation of several projects mostly important of which is the temporary Ministry of Interior building project and the construction of Capital Governorate headquarters, in addition to the city police station located at Naseef Palace and the current governorate building.

In addition to projects recently received by the department and other project which are yet under implementation, the Ministry of

Interior intends to establish a number of other important projects to fulfil work requirements. The ministry was informed of scheduling these projects during the coming five-year-plan. Some of these projects will include the new building of the general department for installation security and special troops, a building for the General Coast Guard Department, a building for the Police Club in addition to completing construction works of police stations located at modern areas.

Col Mohammed Al Salem, director of construction, Interior Ministry.

have historical value. Regarding the new building of the Capital Governorate located at Naseef Palace, Col Salem stated that the northern side of the palace along with the mosque and the old eastern entrance of the building will be restored and preserved due to its cultural and historical value.

The Construction and installations Department at the Ministry of Interior follows up all projects ensuring security requirements with modern designs. The National Housing Authority carries out implementation of these projects according to security requirements. Some of the projects which are currently being implemented through the authority include the Salal Al Deneen police station, Al Qasimiyah police station, Al Qasimiyah police station, Al Qasimiyah South police station, Al Farid police station, Al Thamer police station, and Jahra police station. Other projects are also being carried out by the Ministry of Public Works include Al Motla police station, Al Mubarakiya police station, Al Wafra police station, Abu Halifa police station, Al Andalus police station, Industrial Sabaya police station, The Police Academy building, the State Security building and the courts building in Almasdi.

Col Salem stated several other projects implemented by the department include the utilisation of the Immigration and Passports counters at the four governorates; supervising the construction of the temporary Farwaniya Governorate building and other works for the security committee. The ministry also cooperates with the Ministry of Planning in implementing other projects that include the project of the General Installation Security Department Building, the Express Roads Department Project located north of the Sixth Ring Road, two scrap projects located at Jahra Governorate and Ahmadi, driving school, military vehicles, the Coast Guard Department project of the Police Officers Club, establishing a police station at Kuwait Entertainment City and finally constructing a special building for the Construction and installations Department.

Residents air problems

3 alternatives to Jahra main street issue

GENERAL Director of Kuwait Municipality, Sheikh Sabah Al Jaber Al Ali came out with three alternatives to resolve the problems of the Commercial Street in Jahra. These are represented in re-dividing the northern section of the street owned by the government and selling it by auction after dividing it into grocery shops and commercial showrooms. The second proposal returning these plots to original owners on the condition that they should complete construction in two years. In case they fail to do so, plots will be withdrawn from them. The third is to present the whole issue to the Municipal Affairs Committee for necessary recommendations.

Regarding other shops attached to private residential areas, he said that these shops' licences will expire in Oct 30, 1989. The issue will then be presented to the Municipal Affairs Committee to extend their licences for another period.

General Director of Kuwait Municipality ordered a study on the situation at plot number 41 in Jahra after receiving complaints stating that the plot is deprived of services and does not have electricity.

On the issue of car garages located inside the organising area in Jahra, Sheikh Sabah suggested the allocation of an industrial area.

importance of cleaning the desert areas from trash and garbage.

Regarding licensed and un-licensed shops in the private residential area in Jahra, the director general said that this phenomenon is triggered by several reasons particularly concerning the geographic distance of the area from other commercial and industrial complexes. Additionally the activity of the commercial market at the area does not cover residents' requirements due to the high population density.

Concerning transferring licences, the director general indicated that the municipal affairs committee has approved it on the condition that shops should be already licensed. On the other hand, unlicensed shops represent a danger particularly because they sell food stuff not subjected to the municipality supervision.

The director general added that expanding streets is the responsibility of the Ministry of Public Works and that the National Park project will be implemented in full by the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries.

On the issue of cleaning the desert areas, he said that a tender will be awarded by the municipality in the near future.

الكونفدرالية

Sabah confers with Chad minister

KFAED may extend development loan

KUWAIT, Sept 19. (Kuna): Visiting Chadian Foreign Minister Achekib Ibn Oumar conferred here today with Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed on links between the two countries and African issues.

Sheikh Sabah said after the meeting the Chad official was visiting to relay a message to His Highness the Amir from Chad President Hessein Habre.

He added that he and Ibn Oumar discussed links between the two countries and the possibility of the Kuwait Fund for Econ-

omic Development financing a number of development projects in Chad.

Sheikh Sabah said Ibn Oumar, who arrived in Kuwait earlier in the day, briefed him on the latest developments in his country and on the agreement that Chad has recently signed with Libya to end a border dispute between them.

Ibn Oumar told Kuna on arrival that bilateral relations and issues of common concern will be the focus of the talks with Kuwaiti officials.

Asked about the future of Chad follow-

ing the signing of a peace agreement with Libya three weeks ago, Ibn Oumar stressed that "we want to jump toward the real battle and that is the battle of development and construction that is why we are in need of support and co-operation from our friends such as Kuwait."

Commenting on the agreement with Libya, the Chad foreign minister said that "it is an agreement that puts a framework for a peaceful settlement for the conflict."

He added that the agreement is "an important and a progressive step toward a peaceful solution."

A series of meetings and practical measures will take place soon to implement the provisions of the agreement, he noted while expressing optimism over the end of the problem.

Meanwhile, Ibn Oumar said Sheikh Jaber played an important role in reaching this agreement in his capacity as current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

He also applauded the role of African countries, members of the special committee set up by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) for mediating over this issue.



Kuwait Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah with the Chad foreign minister and other officials.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japanese envoy

KUWAIT, Sept 19. (Reuter): Japan's ambassador to Kuwait said today his country would encourage the peace policy of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat when he visited Tokyo next month.

"Japan will certainly express its great appreciation for and encouragement of the new realistic and moderate policy adopted by Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organisation," Tsuyoshi Kawa said in a statement.

He said Arafat's four-day visit starting on October 1 "would be very important and reflect on the long-standing cordial and friendly ties between Japan and the Palestinian people."

Arafat, who last year renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist, will hold talks in Tokyo with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other leaders.

Dubai visas

BUSINESSMEN will be given one day entry visas upon their arrival at Dubai Airport.

Authorities said that this measure is aimed at facilitating entry procedures. Twelve windows have been allocated for this purpose at Dubai Airport with three windows for Indians, Pakistanis and Iranians, two for Europeans and Americans, two for Arabs and the remaining for other nationalities.

Charity aid

KUWAIT'S Society of Islamic Heritage Revival has extended KD one million as assistance to needy people during the last five years, head of Zakat and Alms Committee at the Society Sheikh Abdubqabbar Salem was quoted as saying.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), Houti said that the MPW is striving to provide necessary health and suitable environment atmosphere in the country in accordance with HH the Amir's directives.

He stressed that his ministry was co-ordinated its efforts with the other ministries and institutions concerned particularly towards drainage, electricity and agricultural projects.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier in his recent meeting with the services ministers confirmed the importance of co-ordination among the ministries of services by carrying out radical reforms in the country's utilities, the official said.

In the light of HH the Crown Prince and Premier's directives, ministries concerned held a meeting in which the future plans were debated.



Finnish envoy

The Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received in his office yesterday morning the new Finnish Ambassador in Kuwait Tero Lehtuzaara. They exchanged friendly talks and discussed bilateral relations between the two countries.

Services to be reviewed

Municipal committee holds session

THE Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Al Rifai headed the opening meeting of the 4th session of Municipal Affairs Committee yesterday morning and addressed the 16 members of the committee who were nominated recently by an Amiri decree. He stressed on the important role of the municipality which is reflected in the political, economic and social scene in Kuwait throughout the last 60 years. Municipality bears an important responsibility to develop buildings, organise cities and islands and to ensure safety of foodstuffs and public cleanliness.

Ahmad Awadh Juaimi was elected as chairman of the Technical Committee, Hamdan Nazzal Al Miasseb as chairman of the Real Estates Disputes Committee, Abdul-Aziz Al Mutawa as chairman of the Financial and Legal Committee and Eqab Al Khatab as chairman of Environmental Committee.

In a related move Kuwait's Minister of Public Works (MPW) Abdurrahman Ibrahim Al Houti has confirmed the ministry's keenness to consider the beautification aspect in the implementation of its projects.

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BAHRAIN DIGEST

Bangladesh woos its non-resident citizens

IN recent years in view of the fact that large number of Bangladeshi nationals work overseas and the remittances from these workers to their country constitute the leading foreign exchange earner for Bangladesh, the Bangladeshi government has been actively encouraging and promoting various investment campaigns through both state and private financial institutions to attract the country's millions of overseas workers to invest in various projects in their homeland. Last year a number of incentives have been authorised specifically by the government for Non-Bangladeshi Residents (NBR) to invest their funds earned in foreign exchange in selective industries.

The Bangladeshi expatriates in Bahrain have now been invited to invest in a series of industrial projects sponsored and financed by a major Bangladeshi bank.

According to a bulletin issued to the Arab Times by the Bangladesh embassy in Bahrain, the Bangladesh Shilpa Bank (BSB) has launched an investment scheme designed particularly for Bangladeshi expatriates in the Gulf, including Bahrain defined as a 'Special Window' for non-Bangladeshi working abroad, the scheme claims to provide certain facilities to set up projects on priority and soft term basis. The objective of the scheme is said to help prospective NRB investors by setting up viable projects with BSB's financial assistance.

Preference

The bulletin states that any adult Bangladeshi citizen or a number of NRNs forming a group will be eligible for assistance under the scheme. BSB will give special preference to the setting up of industries by those NRNs who are capable of meeting the foreign currency requirement of the project in mind. The bank will also give special preference to these NRNs capable of establishing marketing collaboration agreements.

A total of 41 projects have been earmarked for investment by NRNs, including chemical, automobile, electronics, garments, printing, fishery, computer software and leather manufacturing industries.

The Bangladesh Shilpa Bank will send interested entrepreneurs a detailed profile of the listed projects at the payment of Taka 350. At the remittance of further Taka 200 'the standard concession form' or BSQF will be sent to the applicant.

The bulletin further adds that the investment scheme holds an attractive rate of return to prospective Bangladeshi investors abroad.

For further details or queries prospective investors have been requested to write to: The Managing Director, Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, 8, DIT Avenue, P.O. Box 975, Dhaka - 1000, Bangladesh or to the nearest Bangladesh embassy in the Gulf.



Heavy duty thief

Hawalli securitymen arrested a young Jordanian national for carrying out over 160 robberies. He was accused of committing 12 criminal robberies besides carrying out robberies on 150 cars. The stolen materials included jewellery, video cassettes and cash. Some of the people recognised their stolen goods. He was referred with the stolen materials to concerned authorities.

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Bulgarian Muslims issue discussed

KUWAIT, Sept 19. (Agencies): Secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Dr Mahed Al Ghabeab met HH the Amir today.

Ghabeab, who arrived here last night, discussed with the Amir, in his capacity as current OIC chairman, contacts with Turkey and Bulgaria to end their dispute over the Muslim minority in Bulgaria.

Turkey has accepted a Kuwaiti offer to convene a meeting to try to resolve the dispute.

Meanwhile, the arrival of ethnic Turks emigrants from Bulgaria has gone down to a trickle in recent weeks while a reverse exodus has begun of emigrants returning home. Turkish officials said yesterday.

Police and border officials in Edirne said 18,000 have crossed back into Bulgaria so far and 500 are returning daily.

The ethnic Turks began going back to Bulgaria after the Turkish government started requiring visas from the emigrants Aug 22 to stop the influx.

Those returning cite separation from family members left behind and difficulty of finding jobs and housing in Turkey.

The visa decision came after 320,000 ethnic Turks flooded into Turkey in three months, saying they were forced out by Bulgaria's harsh assimilation campaign against their minority of some one million in a total population of nine million.

NHA record

THE assistant director general for distribution, ratification and follow up affairs at Kuwait National Housing Authority (NHA) Faried Al Ajeeb was quoted as saying that the authority has realised a record in distributing houses at such markets.

Meanwhile, the minister confirmed the work progress at the old markets projects such as The Amir Market and Vegetable and Meat Market.

Replies to a question over the period required for the implementing of the rehabilitation projects in the capital, the minister said that these will take about three to five years.

In an interview with a local daily, Ajeeb said that about 4000 housing units had been distributed this year in different areas of the country.

He added that the authority is striving to reduce the waiting period for houses to five years and in Al Jahra the period has been reduced to three years and at Al Sababah complex to three months.

He disclosed that the authority will distribute by the beginning of next year about 3000 plots in Al Qurain. This process will coincide with identical actions at West Fintas, South Rabia and Jahra areas.

Dud cheques

A REPRESENTATIVE of a local company Abdul Rahim A. notified Sharq Police Station that a man identified as Nasir F. had issued a dud cheque for an amount of KD459. In a similar incident, Abdul Aali S. also filed complaint with the Al Salem suburb Police Station against a man identified as Ahmad B for issuing a dud cheque of KD4,000.

The two cases have been referred to relevant prosecution authorities.

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MISHEER Villa, 4 beds, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, lounge/d.m., maids rm	KD 625
JAMIRIA Villa, 3 beds, off with bathrooms en suite, 2 kitchens, lounge/d.m., maid's rm, gdn, maid's rm	KD 700

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TV scanners help clean up sewers

Treated effluent for agriculture

THE director of the Department of Public Networks at the Ministry of Public Works Adel Issa Bo Hamad has said that the ministry is currently involved in a project aimed at cleaning existing sanitary sewers in Kuwait. Efforts are also continuing to upgrade the existing public sanitary sewerage and control the emanating malodour through a closed-circuit TV scanning project (CCTV).

He told reporters of a local daily that treated sanitary effluent is the best type of water used for agricultural purposes, due to the relative low salinity of the water.

Treated sanitary water is used on agricultural projects for growing fodder over an area of 161.5 hectares in Sulabiya, planting 32,000 palm trees and 75,000 shrubs along the express motorway from the 6th ring road interchange up to Shuaiba Area.

He said that the existing method for disposing of sanitary water in Kuwait complied with high international standards and employed high-tech engineering technologies to protect the environment from pollution.

Pumping stations

The constantly-expanding urban activities in the country and the associated steady population growth brought the total number of operating pumping stations to 18, up-substations to 60. The total length of gravity lines amounts to 3300 and 400 pressure lines.

The diameters of existing pipes range between 150 and 1600mm and existing stations are operated by high-tech equipment to ensure round-the-clock operation, with all necessary

Complaints

He said that public complaints of a sanitary nature could be directed to tel. numbers 4834466, 4834158 and 4815648. The operations room received an average of 36 complaints daily, and that the majority of these complaints were the outcome of public misuse of sanitary facilities and dumping prohibited material into the sanitary systems.

Marine pollution is caused by a number of factors, which include violations by tankers' owners of the sanitary code who pour waste matter into storm water drainage systems that ultimately exit into the sea, or the occurrence of inopportune failure in the gravity of pressure lines leading to the explosion of the pipe and consequently leakage into the sea unsanitary matter.

Other factors involved are responsible dumping by beach users or chalet owners of their refuse into the sea. An ad hoc municipality committee has recommended that chalet owners provide their chalets with septic tanks and percolation pits through the necessary official procedures and co-ordination with the Environmental Protection Council, Bo Hamad said.

Mauritius official

The director general of the Union of Co-operative Societies Abdul Latif Al Kharaza has received in his office Deputy Director of Investments and Exports Development Authority of the Republic of Mauritius A.S. Bakr and the accompanying delegation on the occasion of their visit to the country. They discussed cooperation between the two countries. Kharaza presented the shield of the Kuwaiti Co-operative Movement to the guest.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

TIME cools, time clarifies; no mood can be maintained quite unaltered through the course of hours — Thomas Mann, German writer (1875-1955).

OPINION

Implement proposals

If the parties involved in the Lebanese crisis sincerely desire extricating themselves, the solution proposed by the three-member committee on Lebanon need to be implemented.

This civil war in Lebanon was caused by several parties who were individually determined to uphold their national security. However, foreign military forces will ultimately reap dangerous consequences for themselves. It is a fact that an invading army leaves marks of destruction and death on the invaded countries.

Conversely, as the editorial in yesterday's Arab Times pointed out, history is replete with examples of invading forces collapsing and returning to their own countries humiliated.

It is evident that no single party in Lebanon has gained from the crisis that has been going on for the past decade and half in Lebanon. This tortuous and traumatic period should be ample evidence to bring home to these parties the truth that it is indeed prudent and pragmatic to accept the proposals of the three-member committee.

The Lebanese people have repeatedly demonstrated they want independence for their country and desire to solve their problems by themselves — without foreign intervention.

No one has the right to claim that he wants to protect Christianity or the Armenian sect or Communist Party.

The Lebanese people have proved that no one can change their principles by military force. History will positively record the heroic stand of the Lebanese people and their determined resistance and sacrifices to repel foreign intervention in Lebanon's internal affairs. This resistance has become even stronger than the resistance of the Vietnamese against US intervention. The Lebanese sects do not want foreigners to solve their problems. They say — no fleets, no big power intervention and no regional armies are welcomed to stay in or invade Lebanon under any pretext.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Cambodian quagmire

Vietnam's vietnam

EACH month when the moon is full, Muoi Cao Am and his wife twice carry white flowers and incense to pray at the graves of their sons, young soldiers killed because of Vietnam's intervention in Cambodia.

"We burn this incense to remember you. May God give you good fortune," said Muoi, 70, bowing before the peeling white tombstones. His wife, 66, stood aside and wept quietly.

Thinh, 18, was killed in Cambodia in October 1978, when Khmer Rouge soldiers ambushed Vietnamese forces that had intruded two months before Hanoi's invasion.

The next year, San, 21, died along Vietnam's northern border with China, which Beijing attacked to "punish" Vietnam for invading Cambodia. That was two months before his first child was born.

The tombstones, yellowing photographs and the 8,000 dong (\$2) monthly compensation from the government are virtually the only reminders of the youths.

The tragedy of the Muois, of Dan Phuong Tri village near Hanoi, is the tragedy of the 11-year-old Cambodian war that some foreigners have called "Vietnam's Vietnam" — meaning it brought the same failure and waste as America's intervention in Vietnam in the 1960s and '70s.

Vietnam says it will bring its last soldiers home by next Tuesday and let the Hanoi-installed government fight the guerrillas that it couldn't eradicate, despite superior firepower.

Vietnam's communist government has such a tight rein on dissent that the war has not provoked the same public anguish as in America. But a Western ambassador, citing the huge cost, said the experience would make Hanoi very wary about any other adventurism.

The former deputy commander of Vietnamese forces in Cambodia said last year that 30,000 Vietnamese died in border clashes with Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge to the jungles.

Many of the remains are along the frontier at Western Tay Ninh province, waiting to be returned to families, said Gen Tran Cong Man, editor of the official Army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan.

"We will build a memorial for them at the border," he said.

Tens of thousands of young Vietnamese served on the battlefields. Tran Dinh Dac, 31, who now runs a roadside drink stand, recalled long periods in the forests during which he was hungry, often stricken by malaria and always fearful of guerrilla mines and ambushes. This was his life for four years.

The Cambodian war erupted after millions of Vietnamese already had been killed or wounded in four decades of virtually continuous fighting. The North Vietnam communists fought the French colonial rulers, the Japanese occupiers of World War II, then South Vietnam, and its American allies, who conducted some of the fiercest aerial bombardments in history. Thousands more died in China's punitive strike across the border.

TODAY IN HISTORY

490 BC — Greeks defeat Persians in naval battle of Salamis in Aegean Sea.

1519 — Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan sets sail from Spain on global voyage to find western passage to the Indies. One of his ships circles the world.

1530 — Martin Luther advises German Protestant princes to prepare for war rather than to accept compromise with Holy Roman Empire.

1857 — Delhi in India is captured by British after siege since June.

1870 — National unification of Italy is achieved.

1945 — All-India Congress Committee under Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru meets and rejects British proposals for self-government, calling on British to quit India.

1960 — Thirteen newly independent African nations and former British colony of Cyprus are admitted to United Nations.

1962 — Southern Rhodesia declares Zimbabwe African People's Union as unlawful body.

1963 — US President John F. Kennedy goes before UN General Assembly and proposes joint US-Soviet expedition to moon.

1972 — Explosive devices concealed in envelopes and mailed to Israeli officials are discovered in at least six cities around world.

1974 — Estimated death toll is put at thousands as hurricane lashes Central American nation of Honduras.

1978 — South Africa's Prime Minister John Vorster announces his resignation.

1988 — Soldiers from two more Army units in Haiti oust their commanders in revolt that started three days previously.

Shortages a part of Algerian life

Two packs of cigarettes after two hours in line

TWO-hundred-fifty Algerians were lined up at a kiosk in front of Algiers' Central Post Office waiting to buy their ration of two packages of cigarettes.

"It's scandalous," said Ahmed Benjedid, a government employee waiting in line. "Such shortages exist only in people's democracies, and we haven't been one of those for 12 years now."

Similar shortages occur occasionally in bread, gasoline, batteries, soap, milk and other necessities. In the case of cigarettes, Hamoud could stand in line again for two more packs if he had a couple of hours to kill.

Many Algerians blame the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) for shortages reminiscent of the communist world. But some pin the blame more directly on former Premier Kasdi Merbah, fired on Sept 9 by President Chadli Benjedid for holding up his reform programme.

The reforms were initiated last October after the Army put down an uprising in the major cities that left hundreds dead. Many Army leaders felt that such a widespread outbreak of rioting and looting displayed a deep-seated dissatisfaction with the way the party was running the country.

Scattered acts of rioting continue all over Algeria. The city halls of Ain Azel, near Setif; Benyene and Djellabine, near Algiers; and Bafarik, near Blida, have been stormed recently by crowds demanding housing and accusing the mayors of corruption and favouritism. Intermittent strikes to demand higher wages have paralysed industrial enterprises everywhere.

Benjedid, an FLN member who nevertheless has led the effort to move Algeria away from a totally party-dominated state, had been quietly working since his first election 10 years ago to purge the Army leadership of those suspected of sympathising with the ruling party.

Diplomatic observers believe the Army — which used to tell the party what to do — is now solidly behind Benjedid's reform efforts.

But the party is not so easily transformed. For nearly two decades, it held exclusive power under the government of President Houari Boumedienne, who died in 1978. Its estimated 100,000 employees still control every aspect of Algerian life from parliament and the giant national corporations to village councils and local football teams.

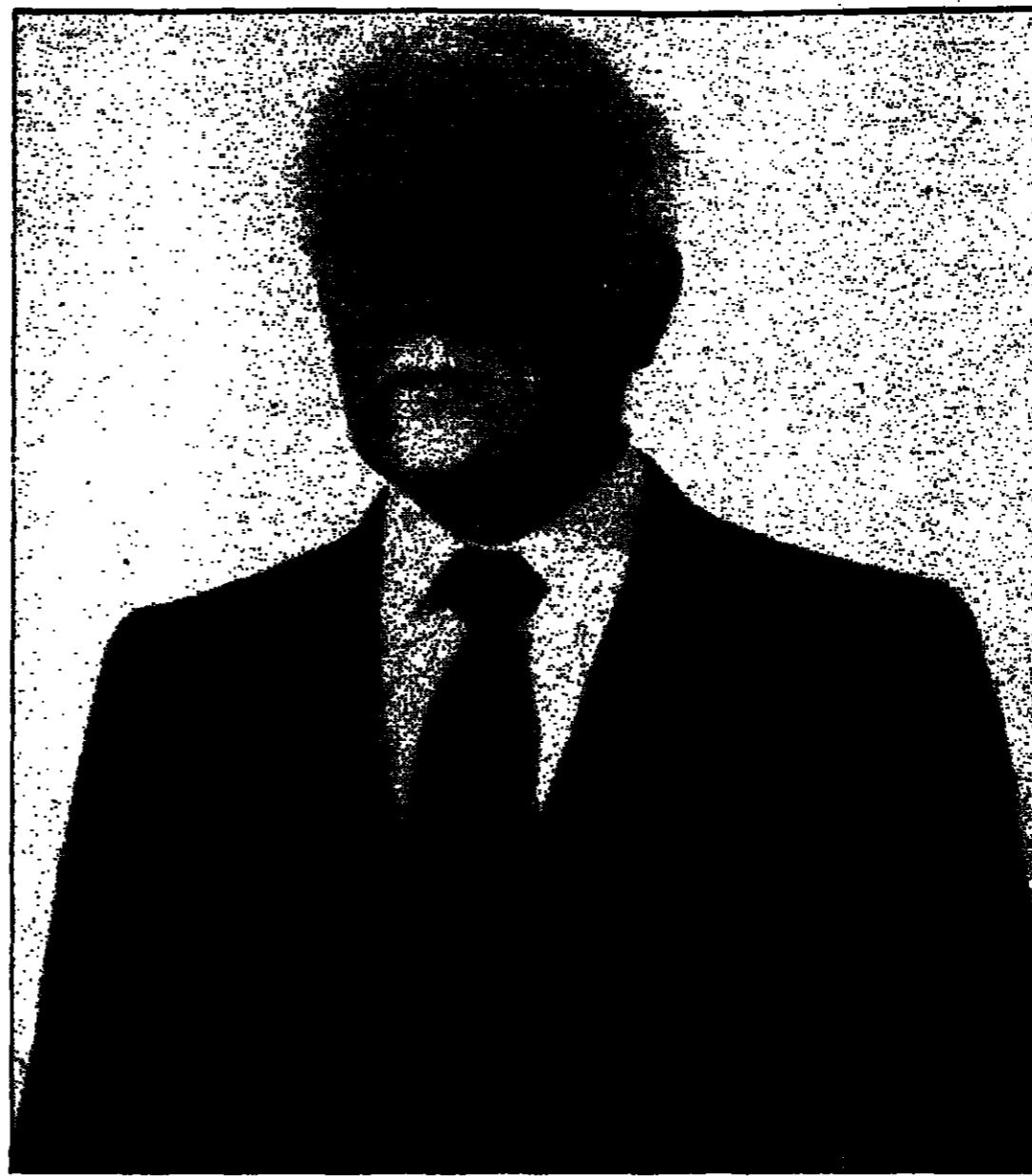
After last year's rioting, Benjedid imposed a far-reaching reform programme that allowed the creation of new parties to the right and the left of the FLN, the freeing of the Algerian press and radio from rigid party control, and the introduction of private-enterprise corporations with the help of foreign capital.

With a nation-wide referendum showing acceptance of the reforms in principle, a government was needed to implement them and persuade the all-FLN National Assembly to approve them.

"Without the vigilance of the president," said the weekly *Algerie-Actualite*, "the Algerian press would today be a chorus of systematic lying."

Algerie-Actualite accused Merbah of deliberately keeping the text of the new constitution from the public and out of schools and universities. This enabled him to claim that only the National Assembly had the power to dismiss him. He briefly defied Benjedid and said he would remain in his post as long as the assembly had not endorsed his president's decision.

In particular, he failed to seek approval for any legislation to open the Algerian economy to private



Chadli Benjedid: reforms

corporations, free the Algerian press or stamp out the widespread corruption.

A few newspapers close to Benjedid dared to criticize the premier.

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But the constitution states clearly that the

president "names the prime minister and puts an end to his functions." Following a brief constitutional tussle, Merbah had to withdraw.

Benjedid named the secretary-general of the presidency, Mouloud Hamrouche, to succeed Merbah as premier.

Hamrouche announced the members of his new cabinet on Saturday. They were largely known Western-oriented technocrats. Most prominent among them was Sid Ahmed Ghozai, the former head of Sonatrach, the gas and oil monopoly, who became foreign minister.

The minister of information, culture, tourism and veterans affairs were abolished to trim down the government. (Algiers — AP)

Reunited Germany not in this century

THE picture of jubilant East German refugees clutching fresh West German passports brings an old US policy question to the surface: Will Germany ever become one again?

"I do think that some form of closer association between West Germany and an East Germany which is greatly reformed, much more open, is possible," Riemer said. "I don't think people want to think about it except one step at a time."

A first step, one that is already being contemplated, would be along the path of economic reform being charted by the planned economic unification of Western Europe in 1992, the Brookings Institution's John Steinbruner said.

He said West Germany may press for stronger East German trade ties to Western Europe.

The key question, one analyst said, was not whether reunification could occur but in what context an economically and politically massive united Germany.

The analyst said a cohesive Europe could more readily cope with the new entity but a united Germany would be hard to accept as long as Eastern Europe is "fundamentally in disarray."

Despite the basic West German law that urges reunification, "Germans are conservative people. The last thing they want to do is leap into an unknown void that would put at risk everything they've worked for."

The US endorsement of reunification has three important conditions, the analyst said: It must come "in peace, in freedom and integrated within the democratic community of nations of Europe."

The United States has a role in easing the road to German reunification, according to Burton Pines, vice-president of the conservative Heritage Foundation.

"It's going to be a big problem for Europe, which is why the United States has to try and take a lead in this and find the kind of arrangement in which a unified Germany is least threatening to its neighbours," Pines said.

Jeremiah Riemer, an expert on East-West rela-

tions at Johns Hopkins University, said he did not believe a single German state was possible this century.

"I do think that some form of closer association between West Germany and an East Germany which is greatly reformed, much more open, is possible," Riemer said. "I don't think people want to think about it except one step at a time."

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Jeremiah Riemer, an expert on East-West rela-

Art Buchwald

High demand for grandmothers

WHAT happened on the cape this summer is that more and more grandmothers gave birth to grandmothers. From one end of the cape to the other, grandmothers started showing up by the thousands on the beaches carrying babies.

"Why the sudden influx of grandmothers?" I asked my friend Ruth, who was sitting on a blanket holding a one-year-old on her lap and wrestling with a two-year-old with her feet.

She said: "The reason is that the need for grandmothers has never been greater. When it comes to free help, daughters are depending on their mothers more than they ever have in the past. With the demand so high more and more of my friends are becoming grandmothers."

"Do you like being a grandmother?" I asked her. "It's a living," she replied. "And it keeps me in touch with the family."

"I asked her, "What is the most important thing a grandmother must know how to do?"

"Baby-sit," she said. "No grandmother can justify her existence if she doesn't know how to sit with kids."

"Do you do it for money?" I asked. "Big joke. I don't even get gas money."

"Do you get bawled out a lot by your daughter?" I asked.

"Yes, I do. You don't know daughters or daughters-in-law. They're always finding an excuse to pick on us. Let me give you an example. The other day I sat with my grandchild for six hours and everything went beautifully. Ten minutes before my daughter came home my grandson walked into the leg of a table and was screaming his head off when she walked in. I was sure she was going to charge me with child abuse."

"I wonder why daughters and daughters-in-law are so tough on their mothers?"

"Because they know their hearts the children love us more than they love them."

"It doesn't surprise me," I said.

"Don't repeat this," Ruth whispered, "but my daughter has no sense of humour."

"What mother does?" I said. "How does your daughter show her displeasure?"

"She's always criticizing me. I either give the baby too much apple juice or not enough. I let them have white like a sheet of Kleenex. I just can't seem to do anything right. I don't know what happens to a daughter when she becomes the mother, but it's a serious role reversal."

"Is that because she doesn't think her mother knows anything about babies?"

"Why would the mother who bore her know anything about children? She talks to me like I'm the village idiot. I took the baby into town this morning and bought him a lollipop. You would have thought I purchased a sugar-flavoured cyanide pill. My daughter screamed at me, 'I told you he wasn't supposed to eat anything between meals but a raw potato!'"

"Well, at least she cares what the baby eats," I said.

I then asked her, "If you had to do it all over again, would you still be a grandmother?"

"What choice do I have? I'm the only real human being the grandchildren have."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Settlements expand

Jews driven by religious zeal

AMID the world's highest concentration of Palestinians, Jewish settlers fired by religious zeal are building villages to try to ensure the Gaza Strip will always be part of Israel.

<p

MIDEAST

Egypt again leads way in diplomacy

CAIRO, Sept 19, (Reuters): Egypt has once again emerged as the centre of Middle East diplomacy, with Israeli and Palestinian leaders shuttling to and fro to press their views on how to achieve peace in the region.

Two officials in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, met in private for two hours in Cairo yesterday and said they agreed on a need for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who seldom broadcasts his travel plans for security reasons, is expected in Cairo

today for his third round of talks with Mubarak in eight days, Egyptian officials told reporters.

Mubarak, a former air force commander, stressed after meeting Rabin, a former armed forces chief of staff, that more negotiations were needed on the makeup of a Palestinian delegation for talks with Israel.

Egypt was formally readmitted to Arab ranks last May after a 10-year split caused by Sadat's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

The pact remains intact, allowing Mubarak to talk directly to Israel and its main backer, the United States, while

maintaining close ties with Arafat and his followers.

After his talks with Mubarak, Rabin said Egypt would announce the identity of Palestinian delegates to any direct peace talks with Israel in Cairo.

But it was not clear how far he spoke for his cabinet colleagues. His visit to Cairo had already widened a split in Israel's coalition government between the dovish Labour Party and the hawkish Likud bloc.

Rabin cautioned that some Israelis wanted only Palestinians from the Israel-ruled West Bank and Gaza Strip to take part in talks. Mubarak said Palestinians from

outside should also be included. The Egyptian leader also stressed to journalists that his controversial 10 points submitted to Israel on possible elections in the occupied territories were not conditions.

Instead, he said, they formed questions designed to clarify for Palestinians what would be achieved if the elections proposed by Israel were held.

Rabin, who later left Egypt after touring the pyramids and laying a wreath on Sadat's grave, was followed into Cairo by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Panel bares peace draft

(Continued from Page 1)

Police said two people were killed and seven wounded in rocket and artillery exchanges between Syrian and Christian Army troops along Beirut's dividing Green Line and in hills above the capital.

Rescue workers also recovered three more bodies from under the rubble of a seven-story apartment building demolished in concentrated shelling of the Shitate Muslim slum of Harbet Hreik yesterday.

No one claimed the attack against American Express, the first incident involving a US target since relations with the traditionally pro-Western Christians soured earlier this month.

Police said the explosive charge weighed half a pound (200 grams) and was attached to a timing device.

It blew up in the hallway outside the fourteenth floor office in the Myrna Shafraoui commercial centre at 11 pm (2100 GMT), when no employees were there. American Express does not employ any US citizens at its Beirut office.

The blast also shattered window-glass of the East Beirut offices of the British Reuters news agency on the second floor of the building.

Ibrahim, an Algerian diplomat entrusted by the Arab League with forming a security committee to monitor a ceasefire, met with Gen Michel Aoun for a second time in 24 hours.

Christian sources speaking on condition of anonymity, said Aoun was consulting with other Christian politicians and militia leaders seeking a common stand toward an Arab peace plan for Lebanon.

Syrian vice-president Abd Halim Khaddam discussed with Lebanese Muslim leaders today efforts to implement an Arab peace plan to end Lebanon's 14 years of civil war, diplomats said.

Iranian refugees

BERNE, Sept 19, (Kuna): About 50 Iranians occupied the entrance hall of the office of the Delegate for Refugees in Berne yesterday to demand specific processing of their application for refugee status, the Swiss news agency reported today.

The Iranian group, which submitted a memorandum, said it would not resort to occupation.

Israeli govt faces crisis

Indirect dialogue, claims PLO

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 19, (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin held a private, hour-long meeting today but gave no sign they settled a cabinet dispute about Egypt's proposal to sponsor Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Shamir refused to give details about his meeting with Rabin, who briefed the premier on his talks in Cairo with President Hosni Mubarak.

"I won't speak about the conversation, but differences of opinion exist," Shamir said to reporters later.

The question is how to overcome them, if at all."

He said reporters should take note of his statement last night that he could not maintain his governing coalition "at any price."

Israeli newspapers, meanwhile, reported that leaders of the left-leaning Labour Party of Vice Premier Shimon Peres were negotiating secretly with smaller religious parties to try to form a narrow governing coalition if the cabinet falls.

The controversy between the coalition partners, Likud and Labour, centres on right-wing opposition to Mubarak's 10-point proposal for breaking a stalemate in Middle East peace efforts.

Egypt is also concerned about Rabin's statements at a Camp David news conference yesterday, which hinted at official recognition of an indirect PLO role in the peace process, Israeli radio stations reported.

Summing up his talks with Mubarak, Rabin said that Israel agreed to Egypt arranging an Israeli-Palestinian meeting. Egypt could put together the Palestinian delegation after coordinating with various elements ... including Israel," Rabin added.

Palestinian leaders interpreted Rabin's remarks as consent to Egypt's suggestion to include Arabs deported by Israel from the occupied territories as negotiators, which would be a compromise between Israel and PLO demands.

When Mr Rabin announced himself that Egypt will announce the names of the Palestinian delegates, that means there's an agreement in principle ... which is very important," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said on Israeli radio.

Earlier this week Freij became the first Palestinian in Israeli-held areas to publicly announce meeting PLO chief Yasser Arafat, despite an Israeli law banning such contacts.

Shamir did not respond to directly Rabin's remarks, except to hint that his fractious governing coalition put together last December, was in trouble.

"I personally would like to see the coalition remain, but I must

say that unity is not worth any price," he said last night.

Shamir is also under heavy pressure from Likud hard-liners who oppose Egypt's plan, primarily because it urges Israel to accept the principle of trading territory for peace.

"Before even starting negotiations we are already conceding. Israel will end up not at the 1967 borders but at the 1947 lines," Industry Minister Ariel Sharon said, referring to a UN partition plan of 42 years ago which envisaged an Israel about a third of its present size.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens played down the crisis and expressed hopes a government breakup could be avoided. "We have coalition crises here an average of about once a month,

so we need another crisis today," Arens said.

Israeli discussions with Egypt on Palestinian elections amount to an indirect dialogue with the PLO, a PLO official said today.

"Though Israel insists it will not talk to us, what is happening now is an indirect dialogue between us and them," Mohammed Milhem, a member of the PLO executive committee, told Reuters, in Amman.

The Bush administration has welcomed reported agreement on the acceptance by Israel of an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and said any such dialogue would have to be focused on Israeli proposals for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel-Hungary ties

Libya raps, US praises



Horn (right) and Moshe Arens signed the agreement on the re-establishment of diplomatic relations. (Reuters wirephoto)

shame and indignation at the resumption of relations between the republic of Hungary and the Zionist enemy," it said, adding that the move would "have only negative repercussions on Libyan-Hungarian relations and Arab-Hungarian relations in general."

In Budapest, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his Hungarian counterpart, Gyula Horn, signed an agreement restoring diplomatic relations, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said in Jerusalem.

Jona said the ambassador, whom it did not identify, had been summoned to the foreign liaison bureau (foreign ministry) within hours of Monday's announcement.

He was told Libya's "aston-

Merchant of death sent to jail

NEWARK, NJ., Sept 19, (Reuters): A South Korean-born businessman, convicted earlier this year of trying to smuggle nerve gas bombs to Iran, was sentenced yesterday to 2-1/2 years in jail and complained he was a victim of racism.

Before J.W. Yun, 48, was sentenced by Judge H. Lee Sarokin, he told the court: "I came to the United States for freedom and justice and now I find I am a victim here."

"If I were not an Oriental guy, if I speak English fluently I would not be targeted by federal prosecutors."

Bu Sarokin rejected Yun's suggestion and said he had been convicted in a fair trial of a serious offence.

Yun, who has been held without bail for the past eight months, will have his 30-month-jail term reduced by time already served.

According to testimony at his trial, he had been negotiating with an undercover customs agent to buy low-yield missiles and 500 Sarin nerve gas bombs destined for Iran.

US to consider visa for Arafat

HELENA, Montana, Sept 19, (UPI): President Bush said he would consider granting a visa to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, but has not made a final decision.

Bush made the remark at a news conference after being told the Palestine Liberation Organisation chief was preparing a request for a visa to attend the next week's opening session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York city.

"We'll consider that matter when it comes to my attention," Bush said. "I will look at that. I don't have a final decision. Obviously it would come to me, but it's not that far along."

Presidential aides said that no visa request had been received from Arafat.

A prominent newspaper today urged the Bush administration to grant Arafat a visa.

The administration should grant Arafat a visa to enter the United States "if granting a visa will help along the Mubarak initiative," said the Washington Post in an editorial.

Radios are lifeline and companion for Lebanese

BEIRUT, Sept 19, (AP): Yehya Mansour could hear the crump of exploding artillery shells as he flipped his radio from one station to another, trying to get a fix on which neighbourhoods were being hit by the Christian guns.

The Christian Voice of Lebanon reported that the Syrians, firing from Muslim West Beirut where Mansour lives, were hitting the Ashrafieh district in East Beirut.

That was enough for Mansour. He and his wife grabbed their two daughters. They ran down the stairs to shelter in the basement of their apartment block in West Beirut's Verdun neighbourhood.

Mansour, a 42-year-old bank clerk, has learned in six months of artillery battles between the Syrians and Christians that when Ashrafieh gets hit, the Christians respond by shelling Verdun.

"Thank God for the radios," Mansour said as he settled the family in the shelter. "They're our

lifeline, our companion.

"If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't know what was going on. We couldn't get by without them."

For Beirut radios are as important for survival as their basement bunkers. Everyone keeps their radios on all the time, waiting for the slashes that will send them to their bunkers.

Beirut has five radio stations that are either Christian or Muslim.

Many families use four or five transistor radios tuned to different stations for news of the fighting, in which more than 900 people have been killed and more than 2,700 wounded since March 8.

Berit's stations also broadcast survival tips such as how to minimize the effect of shrapnel or how to keep children amused in the long hours in the bunker.

During heavy shelling, the radios drop their regular programmes of music, comedy shows and

dramas to broadcast messages from Beirut to families and friends to assure them they're safe.

"Salami Abu-Mouna is trapped in his office. He assures his family in Verdun he is safe," an announcer said on the Voice of the People, run by the Lebanese Communist Party, as Mansour listened.

That night, the Voice of the People, read out hundreds of messages from Beirut for four straight hours.

Hanna Saleh, Voice of the People's General Manager, said the station is a "link that connects thousands of families throughout Lebanon every day."

The Voice of Lebanon, run by the right-wing Christian Phalange Party, has a big audience in the Arab world and Western Europe for its daily "reunion of the beloved" programme in which Lebanese send tape-recorded messages to relatives abroad to let them know they're alive and well.



Will it ever stop?

Three women mourn their relatives who died under the rubble of a building which collapsed in Beirut's southern suburbs. Eight people were killed includ-

Political changes in Algeria

Veterans debate change

ALGIERS, Sept 19, (Reuters): Guerrilla veterans who fought

French rule joined party bosses

today to debate Algeria's biggest political changes since independence in 1962.

The two-day meeting, the first of its type, opened five weeks before a crucial congress of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

The FLN has monopolised

power in post-colonial Algeria but youth riots last October catapulted the country toward a multi-party democracy in which the FLN will be — at least in theory — a party like the others.

"The pioneers of the revolution are disappearing and the rising generations must take the flame under the best conditions," said FLN Secretary-General

Abdelhamid Mehri in an invitation letter to some 400 participants.

"This national conference will regroup different generations of leaders with the goal of consulting on the questions raised by the big changes taking place in Algerian society."

Signs of the fierce internal cleavages that have marked the FLN's history appeared on the eve of the conference with some ex-guerrillas refusing to attend.

Four from the Constantine region told the Algerian news agency APS they were staying home because the FLN had betrayed its principles.

"The FLN belongs in a museum," Colonel Salah Boubnider, one of the four, told state television earlier this year.

Officials say the party has been

badly discredited in recent years

by corruption and abuse of power.

Invitations went out to all central committee members since 1964. Revolutionary Council members from the era of former President Houari Boumediene and political and military leaders of the war of liberation.

But three of the FLN's four surviving founders were excluded — Mohammed Boudiaf, Hocine Ait Ahmed and former president Ahmed Ben Bella, all in exile.

Younger militants have bitterly attacked the party apparatus at recent preparatory meetings for the October 28 FLN congress, calling for more internal democracy.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Naval manoeuvres: Iran will conduct naval exercises in the Gulf this week using an old Iranian jetty as a stand-in for an Iraqi oil jetty, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the exercise dubbed "Karbala Three Operations" would be held Sept 22-24 by the naval wing of Iran's 350,000-strong Revolutionary Guards Corps. (AP)

French envoy: A French envoy left Tehran today after talks aimed at improving relations and an Iranian newspaper said "temporary political bubbles" should not hinder closer ties with Iran.

Francois Scheer, director-general of the French Foreign Ministry, said before leaving for Paris that his talks with Iranian officials were "fruitful," Tehran radio reported. (AP)

News agency boss: Tehran today appointed Hussein Nasiri as the new managing director of Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (Irna), the Iranian agency reported.

Iran said Islamic Guidance Minister Hojatoleslam Mohammadi Khatami appointed Nasiri the agency's new boss during a farewell ceremony for outgoing managing director Dr Kamal Kharrazi, who has been appointed Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations. (UPI)

Frozen twins:</

Rocks hold the secret

65-million-year-old catastrophe

GOLA DEL BOTACCIONE, Italy, Sept 19. (Reuters) A few splinters of rock from an Italian cliffside could solve the 65-million-year mystery of a catastrophe that wiped out half the species on earth including the dinosaurs.

The Gorge Cliff, just outside the beautiful medieval town of Gubbio in central Italy, holds the key to a fascinating scientific dispute over whether the cataclysmic disaster was caused by comets or volcanoes.

It could also throw light on the effect of modern problems like population, the "greenhouse effect", acid rain, depletion of the ozone layer and even the consequences of a "nuclear winter."

The two sides in the dispute, dubbed the "Berkeley bombardiers" and the "Dartmouth detonators" after their US universities and their rival theories, this month made a joint expedition to gather mutually acceptable evidence at the cliff.

For a decade they have contested just what can be deduced from splinters chipped from surprisingly accessible but highly significant rocks rising at the side of a country road.

Both sides agree that something awesome occurred 65 million years ago at the boundary between the cretaceous and tertiary epochs — a frontier clearly visible in a thin line of clay separating rocks from the two periods.

Scientists say half the species then existing on earth, ranging from dinosaurs to forests and to primitive marine plankton fossilised in the rocks here were wiped out.

"In this gorge we can see these extinctions in one thin line in the rocks. This line represents a very sudden extinction," said Jan Smit, a Dutch scientist who supports the comet theory.

Hacking away with a hammer Professor Walter Alvarez of Berkeley in California, founder of the meteorite theory, held up two tiny chips of rock from each side of the border.

Showing millions of microfossils in one sample with a magnifying glass and none visible in the other he said: "We are looking at the greatest extinction of life in the last 200 million years."

Professor Robert Ginsburg of Miami University, who refereed the collecting of samples, told journalists: "Our main objective is to settle some facts about what happened 65 million years ago. The reason it is so important is that there was a major event at that time that changed the course of world evolution."

The gorge was once covered by sea and scientists say the millions of plankton fossilised here provide a much more detailed body of evidence in the geological detective story than scattered bones of dinosaurs elsewhere.

The Berkeley group believes that a giant comet was the main cause of the catastrophe, sparking global wildfires that blacked out the sun and destroyed the dinosaurs' food chain, wiping them out after 150 million years of domination on earth.

This group has recently modified its theories to include the possibility of a chain of meteorites strikes lasting from one day to a million years but Alvarez still believes in one central, huge impact.

Their rivals from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire represented on the expedition by Professor Gary Johnson, contest this theory and say the disaster was caused by a string of massive volcanic eruptions that filled the air with carbon dioxide, creating a disastrous greenhouse effect.

Alvarez's theory depends on evidence in the rocks of an meteorite impact coinciding with the moment of extinction.

He cites concentrations of iridium — a metal common in meteorites but rare on earth — tiny spheres of melted rock, grains of quartz and a ratio between metals like platinum, palladium and gold which the Berkeley group say could only have come from a huge comet collision with earth.

Johnson's team says such evidence could have been created by volcanic activity and that the iridium too spread out over many strata in the rock to suggest a cataclysmic impact at the time of the disappearance of so many species.

He admitted there was no evidence at Gubbio so far of volcanic activity although there were traces at other sites.



The saint is happy

Cardinal Michele Giordano Archbishop of Naples, flanked by two unidentified priests, raises the glass phial containing the congealed blood of Naples patron Saint Januarius after it liquefied during a ceremony inside the Santa Chiara Basilica. The

event has been recorded almost without fail since 1389 and if the blood of fourth century martyr fails or is slow to liquefy then Neapolitans say he is displeased and disaster will invariably follow. (Reuters wirephoto)

Women invade the macho world of automobiles

DETROIT, Sept 19, (UPI) America's love affair with the automobile has mostly been macho: man and machine. Women, however, are making inroads in an industry long dominated by the opposite sex.

Women mechanics, although few in number have discovered the excellent wages and job satisfaction. On a more lucrative level, several women now run auto dealerships.

As consumers, women purchased 4.5 million cars in 1988, spending more than \$50 million.

Still, the industry doesn't take women seriously enough, says Marianne Howatson, publisher of Self magazine.

"Half of cars bought today are bought by women," she said. "Yet the automotive industry does not market to them. Last year, \$800 million was

spent in print advertising by the auto industry and less than five per cent of that was spent in women's magazines."

Family Circle magazine, in an attempt to lure advertising, started presenting an annual award for the best family car.

A survey by J.D. Power and Associates of Agoura Hills, Calif., shows that women are the primary decision makers in 45 per cent of all new cars purchased in the United States. The firm predicts that figure will reach 51 per cent by 1991.

"Women who are primary maintainers of automobiles in their households are more involved in the entire purchase process than are men," the firm reports. Women also service their cars more often than men, an average 3.8 times a year.

At the Mill Valley International car repair shop in Marin County, Calif., manager Gayle Stewart can make a quick diagnosis of just about any car problem although she's had no formal training in mechanics.

"I started as a bookkeeper and one thing led to another," said Stewart. "It's like anything else, if you're around the business long enough, you learn it. A lot of it is just common sense."

Stewart admits running a car shop is a new field for women, but she sees opportunities opening up.

"It's fun and it's challenging. I see a lot more women doing over-the-counter parts sales, for example," she said. "There's some women, but still not many, who actually work on the cars."

The number of woman-owned auto dealerships

pales in comparison to those owned by men, but they are gaining a foothold, such as the Lincoln-Mercury-Honda dealership in Middletown, Rhode Island, owned by Cory Saccucci.

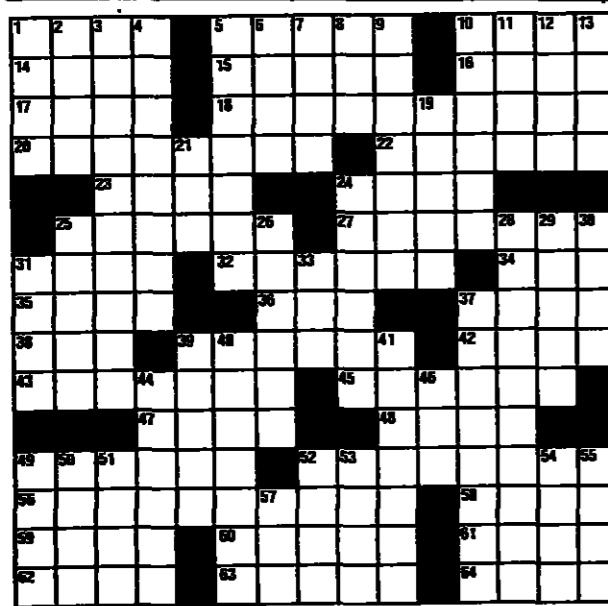
Saccucci, whose husband died seven years ago, said he had little trouble taking over the business. "My husband prepared me for it," she said.

Saccucci is a hands-on owner who employs six salespeople and recently expanded to a new building. She arrives at 7 am and doesn't go home until 5 pm.

"I like to be right here where my customers can see me," she said. "I enjoy the business. There's something new happening every day."

Although her general manager is a woman, Saccucci has an all-male sales staff.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Foul weather cover
5 Wander stealthily
10 Health resorts
15 Goddesses of the seasons
16 Colada
17 Circle parts
18 Reason for a detour
20 Soak meat for flavor
22 Kribati Islands capital
23 Siouans
24 Em, to Dorothy
25 Stage whispers
27 Got it
31 Too
32 Rubbernecks
34 Clay, today
35 Harness part
36 "The Catcher in the —"
37 Ship's prison
38 Columnist
Landers
39 Metric units
42 Aliases: Abb.
43 They can't be choosers
45 Detritus
47 Comida cheers
48 Actor Bruce
49 Of the stars
52 Of comparative reasoning
56 Motorist's concern
58 Trumpeter
swan genus
59 U or harpin
60 Lamebrained
61 Lisa
62 Wayside hotels
63 Glutted
64 Thrust
DOWN
1 Astaire and

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
ANDI AWARD DABS
BOON TABOO EVIL
ASOF TRUST TONY
THROWINTHTETOWEL
ROCS RUSTY
LAKME POLAR
AROA OLIVES GOT
PULLINONE SHORNS
SMA DECORS KICK
AARON FETES
SLOTH STAY
WASHONESHANDSDF
ERIE EXPEL OLGA
EVEN SPIEL KIRI
TARS SONNY EMER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
DRIVING A WRITER CRAZY

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ J 10 2
♥ Q 8 7 5
♦ A 4
♣ J 9 8 4

WEST

♦ 6
♥ K 10 6 2
♦ Q 9 8 5
♣ K 7 6 2

EAST

♦ K 7 5 3
♥ J 4 3
♦ J 10 7 6 2
♣ 5

SOUTH

♦ A Q 9 8 4
♥ A 9
♦ K 3
♣ A Q 10 3

The bidding:

South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠

Once in a while we decide to play in a duplicate pair event. And many is the time we swear we will never do it again. This hand will help explain why.

Like almost every other pair in the event, we reached a contract of four spades. Unlike many of the other pairs, we received an unhelpful diamond lead. As you can see from the diagram, a heart lead would allow dummy's queen to win, providing another entry and, as the

diamond declarer has only one entry to the table. We won in hand, crossed to the ace of diamonds and ran the jack of spades. When that won, we would have had no problem at rubber bridge. Repeat the spade finesse as often as necessary, draw the trumps and concede a club trick—making five-odd if the spade finesse really is a winner.

At duplicate, especially in a good field, you have a problem. West could be holding up the king of spades, and it could be the club king that is onside, not the spade monarch. We thought we could ceter to that by leading the jack of clubs next, dropping the ten from hand. If that lost, we could still get back to the nine of clubs to repeat the spade finesse.

Not only did the finesse lose, but the roof fell in. West returned a club for East to ruff, and back came a heart. We had already lost two tricks, and as the cards lay there was no way we could avoid losing a trump trick and a heart. Needless to say, we were the only pair with a minus score on the board!

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 19)

You will have plenty to be pleased about and something to be sorry about. Try to spend a little more time with your partner. Make sure you do not create problems for yourself. Be polite.



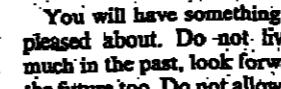
Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Something you have been putting off should not be left any longer. You should not lose sight of your objectives. Do not spend more than you can readily afford. Be less obstinate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Make sure you do not lose the courage of your convictions. Avoid becoming involved in what does not concern you at all. You will be asked for your opinion and should give it freely. Be more positive.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will have something to be pleased about. Do not live too much in the past, look forward to the future too. Do not allow yourself to become too dependent on others. Be careful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have something to be pleased about but also something to regret. You should beware of playing with fire. There will not be time for all you want to do. Only if you think you are too old to learn are you. Be trustworthy.



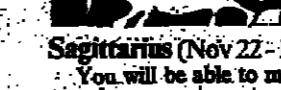
Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 21)

Something you have been putting off should not be left any longer. You should not become too personally involved in something that should be dealt with dispassionately. Do not believe all you hear. Be attentive.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will be able to do something you have long wanted to do. Something you have been delaying should be dealt with without further delay. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 42. Make sure your partner feels loved and wanted. Be correct.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to make more rapid progress than of late. Something you had been hoping to sell will not find a ready buyer and you may have to drop the price. If you are playing with fire try to extinguish it. Be tolerant.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You should make sure you do your best to keep control of the situation. And avoid allowing your ambitions to get out of hand. Not everything is to your liking but much is. Be objective.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

The situation is not ideal but there is much you will be able to turn to your advantage. You should not allow your mind to wander but there is no harm in a little thought about how you would like things to be.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have a lot to do and should not allow yourself to be distracted. Avoid losing your temper if nothing is to your liking. Make sure a friend of yours gets enough of your attention. Be less obstinate.



"Good grief, it is you! How long's it been? Twenty years? I thought I recognized the suit."

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Western firms may invest \$1b in Poland

LONDON, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Western companies are expected to invest \$1 billion in Poland this year following sweeping moves to promote joint ventures and open up the economy, a senior Polish official said today.

Hubert Janiszewski, vice-president of Poland's foreign investment agency, said the new Solidarity-led government would be asking Western accounting firms to help privatise key parts of the economy's state-controlled industrial sector.

"The shipyards are an obvious target for privatisation," he told reporters. "But light industry could also be a target for takeover — the government has not yet identified all sectors."

Janiszewski, in London to sound out companies and accounting firms on the twin issues of joint ventures and privatisation, said there was still resistance among some Polish workers to the ideas and the new government might have to tread cautiously.

It would take time, he said, to overcome years of dogma and visions of a capitalist Uncle Sam squeezing workers' blood.

What needs is a public relations campaign, telling the people what privatisation is about," he said.

Foreign investors have been allowed to invest in Poland since 1976, but legislation introduced at the end of last year was designed to make joint ventures far more attractive.

Janiszewski said 450 new ventures, 200 of them with West German firms, had been approved so far this year for a value in equity and loans of more than \$400 million.

But he added the number of ventures should rise to 800 by the end of the year.

CURRENT EXCHANGES

KUWAIT, Sept. 19. (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29985	0.30084
Sterling	0.46841	0.47247
Dm.	0.15325	0.15445
S. fr.	0.17733	0.17881
F. fr.	0.04540	0.04579
It. lira	0.0002131	0.0002145
Jap. yen	0.0020368	0.0020733
Bh. dinar	0.79461	0.79851
UAE dir.	0.08158	0.08195
S. riyal	0.08987	0.09026
O. riyal	0.08228	0.08271
O. riyal	0.77811	0.78181

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Sept. 19. (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Std	Offered
1 month	8.5/16	8.9/16
3 months	8.5/16	8.9/16
6 months	8.5/16	8.9/16
1 year	8.5/16	8.9/16

Period	Std	Offered
1 month	8.5/16	8.9/16
3 months	8.5/16	8.9/16
6 months	8.5/16	8.9/16
1 year	8.5/16	8.9/16

Oil pipeline commissioned

We want to diversify our economies: Shirawi

Gulf urges trade pact with Europe

BAHRAIN, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Gulf Arab states are urging the European Economic Community, their main trading partner, to sign a trade accord allowing their infant industries access to Arab Emirates.

Officials in the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) say they want EEC businesses take part in joint ventures producing goods that could be completed and sold in Europe.

A trade agreement to follow up a preliminary pact signed last year was urgently needed to narrow a \$4.4 billion trade deficit in favour of the EEC in 1988, they said.

"We want the EEC to do two things," said Yousef Shirawi, Bahrain's minister of development and industry.

"We want them to allow our products to enter without customs duties — which they will refuse — and we want to embark on joint ventures with them so we

can manufacture new products which can freely enter Western Europe," he told Reuters.

The GCC, an economic and political alliance, groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Most EEC imports enter the area virtually duty-free. Cheaply-produced Gulf petrochemicals are effectively blocked from Europe by quotas and 12-14 per cent tariffs.

Gulf economists say the GCC is one of the largest markets for EEC products, taking 16 cent of the community's exports in 1987. But in the same year Gulf exports dropped to five per cent of total EEC imports from around 15 per cent in 1981.

Shirawi — who will head Bahrain's delegation to a dialogue with European businessmen in Spain next February — said Gulf states offered cheap energy and manpower to par-

tially manufacture products that could be completed in Europe.

"We want to diversify our economies and they want to protect theirs. The best thing is not to retaliate but to join them and manufacture with as much added value here as possible," he said.

Ibrahim Bin Salamah, managing director of Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corp., told Reuters petrochemical firms in the Gulf were meeting counterparts in Europe to try to set up partnerships.

"We see our role as providers of raw materials, but we want to expand into intermediate and downstream industries, not necessarily in the Gulf," he told Reuters by telephone.

Abdullah Al Qurweiz, GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, said joint venture projects between the two groups could include pharmaceutical and chemical indus-

tries.

"We believe the EEC has a more crucial role to play in the industrialisation of the GCC ... it is imperative to correct this serious trade imbalance," he said.

Gulf International Bank economist Henry Azzam, the EEC's current account surplus with the GCC probably exceeded \$10 billion in 1988.

Qurweiz said the EEC commission understood the GCC position and was formulating its own. A trade and co-operation accord signed between the two group in June 1988 was intended as an umbrella for a detailed pact.

Qurweiz said there was a good chance Gulf states would begin putting protective tariffs on some imports if their own products were not allowed to compete. More than 43 per cent of GCC imports come from Europe.

British oil output hits 6-month high

BAHRAIN, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Britain's North Sea oil production, a key contributor to government revenues and the balance of trade, hit a six-month high in August of 1.82 million barrels per day (bpd), stockbrokers James Capel said.

The first is closely involved in monitoring North Sea oil developments and bases its figures, regarded as authoritative in the industry, on oil company estimates.

The August numbers indicate Britain is recovering from a disastrous production slump in June when offshore accidents sent output to 10-year lows of around 1.3 million bpd.

But although August crude output is the best since March's 1.92 million bpd, it is still down on last year's levels.

The widely-forecast recovery from the accidents is also proving slower than many analysts expected.

Stockbrokers' oil teams said at the beginning of the summer they expected Britain to be pumping around two million bpd in August and reach 2.2 to 2.4 million by September.

Norway, Britain's main North Sea oil-producing rival, pumped an average 1.568 million bpd in August, almost the same as July's 1.567 million.

Gold steady

Dollar dips

BAHRAIN, Sept. 19. (Reuter): The dollar dipped just before the close of European trading today after the US central bank, the Federal Reserve, intervened in the open market.

Dealers in New York said the Fed sold dollars when the US currency was at 1.9470 West German marks, pushing the dollar down to a low of 1.9470 marks.

It quickly edged back to close in London at 1.9505 marks and 145.77.

The dollar also fell earlier in the day after the release of the US consumer price index and housing starts data for August which were weaker than most economists had forecast.

But it soon rebounded. "There was overwhelming support for the dollar at 1.95 marks," said one trader in Frankfurt.

"People are still a little jumpy after the seven-pien fall we saw on Friday, so they oversold, and then they bought back," one European trader said.

Gold bullion ended little changed at \$360.75 an ounce in London after \$361 yesterday.

Call to boost imports

TOKYO, Sept. 19. (Reuter): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher started a visit to Japan today by warning that Japan had "quite a long way to go" in lowering barriers to imports from the rest of the world.

Thatcher, who relishes the role of drum-beater for British industry while on overseas trips, took up the cause of firms exporting to Japan during a visit to a major Tokyo bank.

Inspecting the foreign exchange dealing room, which uses British high-technology systems, she declared: "This is the kind of export we wish to see more of. It is a very good example."

Shown how to use a dealing station, Thatcher pressed a key and declared: "We just got through to London and bought sterling."

Asked about recent Japanese moves to make foreign goods, including Scotch whisky, more available, she said: "There's quite a long way to go."

The Japanese government has taken down some tariff barriers. It's other kinds of barriers that are more difficult to get rid of."

ESSAR GUJARAT INVITES YOU TO A BARBECUE.

DATE	VENUE
21st September 8.30 p.m.	Kuwait Holiday Inn

Come and grill us on our forthcoming public issue.

We'll be more than happy to tell you where your

money is going. We'll take you through our entire

proposal. The feasibility and the profit plans.

You won't discover any half-baked ideas here.

ESSAR
PROUD TO BE INDIAN

THE ESSAR GUJARAT INVESTOR CONFERENCE.

Kuwait's GDP growth estimated at 2pc

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Reuter): US consumer prices and housing starts cooled down in August, the government reported today, with zero inflation at the retail level and housing construction at a six-month low.

Consumer prices were unchanged in August from a month earlier due to declines in the price of petrol and lower clothing prices, the Labour Department said.

The zero August inflation figure, coming after two straight months of 0.2 per cent rises, was the

lowest since a 0.3 per cent drop in April 1986, the department said.

Construction starts of new homes fell by a sharp five per cent in August, the largest drop in six months, the Commerce Department said. The figure surprised economists, who were expecting it to stay unchanged from July.

US treasury bond prices rose slightly after the reports were issued, reflecting reduced inflation concerns, but then pulled back to stand little changed from Monday's close.

GDP (compared with 12 per cent) had no interest payments been rescheduled).

Egypt's budget deficit continued to decline considerably — from 20 per cent of GDP in 1987 to about 16 per cent in 1988 — but still remains unsustainably high and continues to represent a potential source of high inflation.

The Egyptian government has initiated a series of changes in pricing policy, as well as other actions, designed to cut further the budget deficit.

The annual report concludes that "a more rapid and thorough structural reform will be needed if Egypt is to restore its economy to a balanced growth plan."

The reduction in output was accompanied by a further deterioration in the fiscal situation, as the budget deficit rose from 11.8 per cent of GDP in 1987 to almost 15 per cent in 1988.

The World Bank believes the weakness in Jordan's balance-of-payments situation in 1988 was largely the result of the sig-

nificant decline in remittances and grants — by 6 per cent in nominal terms — and the increase by nearly 40 per cent in debt-service payments.

Referring to the adjustment situation among the high-income oil exporters in the Gulf, the World Bank notes that further decline in international oil prices during 1988 did not have a uniform effect upon the high-income oil exporting countries.

Saudi Arabia, the report notes, was able to compensate for the oil-price decrease by an increase in output, while each of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the UAE experienced precipitous drops in oil revenues.

As a result, growth rates in 1988 varied, with Saudi Arabia growing at 4 percent, the UAE at less than 1 per cent, and the other GCC states at about 2 per cent, the report says.

In Kuwait, where oil production was virtually the same in 1988 as in the year before, GDP growth was estimated at 2 per cent.

(Continued on Page 14)

The annual report shows that real Gross Domestic Product increased fastest (19.2 per cent) in North Yemen, which benefited from a massive increase in oil production and exports. Morocco

Bankers to the Issue: Kuwait, Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait.

Government predicts total trade volume will rise to about \$120b in '89

Fresh move to upgrade Taiwan's image

TAIPEI, Sept 19. (Reuter): Taiwan's businessmen, armed with growing advertising budgets and a government-sponsored publicity campaign, are out to persuade the world that "Made in Taiwan" means quality.

"We must put a completely new face on our economy," said Stan Shih, president of computer giant Acer Incorporated and a major force in the effort to upgrade Taiwan's image.

"We have got to realise that the 'Made in Taiwan' reputation is not what it should be."

"Foreigners think of Taiwan and they think of copied designs, uneven quality and undependable management," he added.

Stores across the globe are packed with Taiwan goods — the island is the world's top exporter of nearly two dozen items ranging from digital watches to tennis rackets.

But as the Taiwanese move into status products such as computers and medical equipment, they have to fight their reputation as peddlars of inexpensive copies of

famous brands, plastic toys and some poor quality merchandise.

"Taiwan companies just don't get much respect," said Harry Chen whose company, Hongson Incorporated, has switched from filling orders for foreign clients to marketing its own brand name shoes overseas.

"People don't think of us as serious players."

Hongson's five brands include Travel Fox and Juliano's and Chen estimates US sales will surpass \$50 million this year, up from \$30 million in 1988.

Taiwan's success rests on its remarkably flexible economy. Its hundreds of thousands of tiny firms specialise in original equipment manufacture for foreign companies and react with lightning speed to changing market conditions.

The government predicts Taiwan's total trade volume will rise to about \$120 billion in 1989 from \$110 billion last year, overtaking South Korea to become the 12th largest trading nation in the world.

While Taiwan earns billions of dollars

in foreign exchange, only a handful of local companies have been big enough and aggressive enough to establish their own brand-name image overseas.

Even the island's brand-name success stories such as Acer and sports equipment producer Pro-Kennex shy away from directly identifying themselves with Taiwan.

"When we advertise, we list our corporate offices as Silicon Valley (California), Germany, England, Japan... and then add Taiwan at the very end," said Shih.

The government plans a \$40 million world-wide campaign to give Taiwan a new up-market sparkle.

"If we only exported junk then we would never have made it this far," said Ma Chyan-Yih, who heads the trade promotion department at the Board of Foreign Trade. "What we need to concentrate on now is marketing."

The campaign, to be launched next year, will include a barrage of advertising in international media as well as overseas

shows of Taiwan's high-tech products.

Officials hope that special loans will nudge firms into budgeting more for professional advertising — an area long neglected by Taiwan's production-oriented businesses.

"Some 55 per cent of the advertising in Taiwan is written by the companies themselves just to save money," said David Lightle, business development director for Saatchi and Saatchi Gaynor.

Some producers are already catching on. During the first six months of 1989 Taiwan companies spent 21.8 billion Taiwan dollars (\$850 million) on advertising, a 28 per cent jump over the same period last year, according to the Taipei association of advertising agencies.

Many Taiwan companies are simply too small to afford the media blitz required to establish a reputable brand image.

To help Taiwan's small firms compete in the international big leagues, Shih and a group of other successful Taiwan producers have set up the brand International Promotion Association.

Ferranti negotiates rescue package

Scandal unfolded

LONDON, Sept 19. (Reuter): The Ferranti Electronics Company said today it was negotiating a rescue package with British and foreign firms after discovering an apparent multi-million dollar fraud that has shaken Britain's arms industry.

Chairman Sir Derek Alun-Jones said Ferranti lost up to £150 million (\$235 million) in dubious contracts inherited in its takeover of the US-based International Signal and Control Company in 1987.

"We have to have new equity. There are four or five options, we are looking at all of them. I think we will have a choice of deals," Alun-Jones told Reuters.

He said Ferranti was considering partnership with another firm, selling all of Ferranti, or raising cash through selling non-core assets or a new issue of shares.

He added that Ferranti was holding talks with a number of companies including British, European and American firms.

In a television interview he urged the company's banks to continue supporting it and said: "Since the company has been wounded by this activity we are busy burying it."

Alun-Jones also defended the ill-fated takeover of ISC — which Ferranti had seen as an entry into lucrative but competitive defence markets of the developing world.

"It looked like a very successful company that was available to us at what looked like a very good price. The fact the company's accounts were incorrect, that certain parts of the management were mismanaging ... was not apparent to anyone at the time," he said.

The scandal comes as a bitter blow to Ferranti as it vies for a billion dollar contract to supply radar for the European fighter aircraft now being developed by Britain, Italy, West Germany and Spain.

Technology seminar

A REVOLUTIONARY approach to excavational equipment will be presented at the 'ACB Technology seminar' on Sunday September 24, 1989, at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel.

ACB Technology are the exclusive manufacturers of this equipment world-wide. They have developed their technology based on the conversion of compressed air to supersonic speed which pulverizes porous matter leaving utility cables, pipes, conduits, tree routes, etc. intact.

The equipment division of Al Same Group Company WLL, are sole dealers of these products in Kuwait, and will be hosting the seminar together with ACB management.

Bank arranges \$25 million loan

The Commercial Bank of Kuwait has arranged a \$25 million two-year trade-financing facility to Daewoo Hongkong Limited, guaranteed by Daewoo Corporation, Seoul, Korea. The loan was signed in Kuwait on Sept 7.

The other Kuwaiti banks which joined the transaction are Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait, Industrial Bank of Kuwait and Kuwait Real Estate Bank.

Present dollar level tolerable: Lawson

G-7 looks set to mask currency differences



Nigel Lawson

industrial world is heading into an eighth consecutive year of growth.

But it has become clear that individual G-7 countries have different views about how to tackle the dollar problem and how strong an emphasis to put on currency levels.

A senior US official said last week the dollar's level was causing "considerable concern" in Washington and abroad.

But British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said today the present dollar level was tolerable. G-7 officials were only worried about a further dollar rise, he said.

Economists say there is also a split about trade imbalances.

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India and China to boost trade

NEW DELHI, Sept 19. (Kuna): India and China have agreed to expand bilateral trade and stressed the need to promote closer trade and economic relations.

This was decided at a meeting of the India-China joint commission on trade, economic relations and science and technology which began here yesterday.

The Indian side at the talks is headed by Commerce Minister Dinesh Singh and the Chinese side by the Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuo Bin.

The joint commission was set up after Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Beijing last year.

Bin said the meeting would mark the beginning of a new phase in bilateral ties between India and China.

He said China expressed its keenness to further develop relations with India on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

The Chinese minister said the prospects for expansion of Sino-Indian trade were bright because both nations are facing the challenge of developing their economies, both are developing countries, both have vast natural resources and are neighbouring countries in Asia.

Despite domestic problems

Japan to press for bigger IMF role

TOKYO, Sept 19. (Reuter): Japan may be preoccupied with its domestic political problems but it won't stop Tokyo from pressing for a bigger international role at forthcoming IMF meetings in Washington.

Japanese officials said that Tokyo will be working behind the scenes to try to fashion an agreement on more resources for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that it hopes to use as a springboard to buy itself a bigger say in the body.

"We want a bigger vote in the fund, in line with the strength of our economy," said one official, who declined to be identified.

Although Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto spent most of his first month in office wrestling with domestic problems, he has been quick to pick up on international series in briefings prior to his trip to Washington on Friday, officials said.

"He's quite flexible," a official said.

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Kuwait's GDP growth estimated at 2pc

(Continued from Page 13)

tries took place in 1988, with the current-account deficit increasing from \$1.5 billion to \$3.8 billion.

Kuwait and the UAE were the only countries with current-account surpluses, of \$3.6 billion and \$3.4 billion respectively, the annual report points out. Saudi Arabia shows a current-account deficit of about \$7.4 billion, a 22 per cent improvement over the previous year, reflecting increase in non-oil exports.

Preliminary estimates by the World Bank indicate that each of Kuwait, Oman and the UAE had the highest non-oil GDP growth rates, in the 4 per cent-to-6 per cent range.

A deterioration in the external balances of most of these coun-

tries took place in 1988, with the current-account deficit increasing from \$1.5 billion to \$3.8 billion.

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In the case of Algeria, movement from a centrally plan-

ned economy to a more market-oriented system has been striking. The first step in this direction was the effective privatisation of state farms, a structure that had resulted in low and stagnant productivity for the past 25 years, the report says.

This measure was followed by a complete revamping of the institutional framework for the conduct of macro policies, stressing the active role of the central bank in controlling credit and money supply and the disengagement of the treasury from direct financing of public enterprises.

As far as Tunisia is concerned, the World Bank says stabiliza-



Strikers seek higher wages

Thousands of strikers from a Peugeot factory in Mulhouse, eastern France walk down the Champs Elysees, on Monday on their way to the car-maker's Paris headquarters. The strikers are calling for higher wages. (Reuter wirephoto)

France under growing pressure

Reflationary budget to be unveiled

PARIS, Sept 19. (Reuter):

France's socialist government, under growing pressure from the left to boost spending and cut jobless lines, will unveil a wildly reflationary 1990 budget tomorrow, government sources said.

But Prime Minister Michel Rocard, who has helped France win a new-found reputation for vigorous economic housekeeping, is determined to keep tight control of financial reins while providing some redistribution of the mark in February 1987.

The dollar climbed to two marks on Friday and is still above the 1.90 level the G-7 ceiling was thought to have set as the currency's upper limit against the mark in February 1987.

The dollar's ability to break above that led to a damning appraisal of G-7 co-operation last week from US economist Fred Bergsten, who said the G-7 was a shambles and that the group had lost market credibility.

The group has tried to limit the dollar's rise this year by intervention on currency markets, but economists say this has been ineffective and member states are at odds over the usefulness of the exercise.

Despite sporadic concerted dollar sales this year, the main thrust of the intervention has come from the US and Japan.

The other key player, the Bundesbank, has said intervention does not work. "The Bundesbank only intervenes so it won't be accused of being uncooperative," one West German banker said.

francs (\$1.5 billion) to 90 billion (\$13.6 billion).

In come in the West's fourth largest economy is seen rising by around 4.3 per cent in 1990. To make up the difference Paris has an unexpected windfall to draw on as economic growth this year is now expected to be between 3.5 and 3.9 per cent, much stronger than early forecasts of around three per cent.

The first 10 billion of the anticipated 10 billion franc windfall has been earmarked for trimming over three years was cut back to just over four billion (\$600 million) for 1990. No commitment of further cash has been made.

For the first time in recent years, defence's 3.1 per cent increase translates into a net reduction when taking into account inflation expected to be around 3.5 per cent.

Rocard and Berégovoy want to show that France has completely broken with the disastrous economic management of the early 1980s, the government sources said.

Fiscal and monetary rigour would also keep France in line with its main EEC trading partner West Germany and underpin Paris' push for monetary and economic union in the EEC.

Poland, EEC sign trade agreement

WARSAW, Sept 19. (Reuter):

Poland and the European Economic Community signed a trade and economic co-operation agreement today which Polish officials welcomed as a token of the West's willingness to put commercial relations on a friendly footing.

But they said the pact, which commits the EEC to lift import restrictions over the next five years, would initially have a limited impact on trade.

EEC Trade and External Relations Commissioner Frans Andriessen and French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas signed the accord with the Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Foreign Trade Minister Marcin Swiecki, the official news agency PAP said.

The agreement will gradually ease restrictions on Polish imports, improve operating conditions for Western businesses and promote economic co-operation in sectors ranging from agriculture to telecommunications.

Some import restrictions will be lifted from 1990 and many others will go in 1994. Details of the pact were worked out in July.

Andriessen and Dumas had talks today with Skubiszewski and Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, whose Solidarity-led government took office last week, PAP said, but gave no details.

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EVENTS

Engineers Forum celebrates Onam in Kuwait

THE Engineers Forum made all their final arrangements to celebrate the 'Onam', the popular traditional harvest festival of Kerala to remember their good old days of their Maha-Raja Mahabali, also known as Maveli and to receive him on his visit every year to the state at the Onam Season, the season of harvest, boat races, flowers, moonlight, prosperity and happiness.

The Engineers Forum will celebrate their Onam at Indian Art Circle hall from 9.30 hrs to 16.00 hrs on Friday the 22nd September. The celebrations

will include various entertainment programmes of children, ladies and men such as Onam of children, Kaikottikali by ladies, Villadicampath by men, etc, etc.

The entertainment will be followed by Grand and Royal 'Onam Sadya' with not less than 21 courses (items).

The programmes shall be sponsored by M/s Sana Household & Gifts, Gulf Air, Union Trading Company and Al Ghannim Freight Services.

The following committees and members are working hand in hand

with the Forum Convenor Mr K.K. Mathew (TKMCE) to make the celebration a grand success since it is the first time in Kuwait that all the five engineers from Kerala Engineering Colleges join together to celebrate Onam under one banner, the Engineers Forum.

Organisation Reception Committee Joint Convenor: K.T. Thomas (CET). Members: Bijili Varghese (TKMCE); Prethapachandran Nair (NSSCE); Kochu Thresia (TEC); T.K. Abraham (REC). Finance Committee Joint Con-

venor: Cherian George (REC). Members: Jagan J. Thomas (TKMCE); Krishnadas Menon (NSSCE); V.A. Salim (CET); C.E. Krishnan (TEC). Arts & Recreation Joint Convenor: Chandra Mohan Nair (NSSCE). Members: Santhosh George (TKMCE); Thulasidas (REC); V.

Kerala Varma (TEC); Kashy Daniel (CET). Food Committee Joint Convenor: Viswanadhan (TEC); P.E. Thomas (TKMCE); K.P. Thomas (NSSCE); Chandra Sekharan (REC); Varghese Joseph (CET).



Ladies enjoying Afternoon Tea at the Kuwait International

Afternoon Tea: The Kuwait International Hotel recently introduced Afternoon Tea in La Patisserie. There, one can go ahead with unashamed indulgence in sampling all those naughty-but-nice goodies and drain the pot without draining the colour from one's cheeks when the bill arrives because the prices — well the prices are extremely reasonable. Much imaginative traditional fare is served ... certainly lots of sandwiches, mouthwatering pastries, delicious scones and of course, the finest teas!

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 9.30 Itlah Ya Sim Sim: Children Cultural Programme
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Mawlood Fi Al Wajt Al Daye: Daily Arabic Serial (part 11)
- 11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 11.15 Acllah Wa Mlah: Local Serial (part 6)
- 12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 12.15 Hishar Wa Nagham: Variety Programme, prepared by Qasem Abdul Qader
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Holy Quran and Closedown



Learning The Ropes

THE EVENING

- 4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
- 4.15 The World Today via Satellite
- 4.45 Children Stories Cartoon Serial
- 5.15 Cartoons
- 5.45 Religious Feature
- 6.15 Nihayat Saif: Arabic Serial (part 4)
- 7.30 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements Variety
- 8.00 The World About Us: Cultural Programme
- 9.00 Arabic News
- 9.45 Wajeda Wa Samah: Arabic Serial (part 13)
- 10.30 At Horroob: Al Sabat: Weekly Serial (part 2), starring Waieeq Al Zaeem, Sabah Barakat, Najwa Sudqi
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 The World Today Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran
- 6.10 Trollies: A cartoon series for Children
- 6.30 Scuba World "Rio Rio - Islands Of Cor-tez"
- 7.00 Danger Bay "Put A Little Back" Grant
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Istiqbal Pharmacy
Sabah Al Safat, Property of late Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Inheritor
Al Omar Pharmacy
Muhsin Al Kabeer Street, Al Awadi Complex

Salmiya and Rumeithiyah
Qortuba Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street, North Salmiya Building
Fahheel and Al Madi
Fahheel, Al Dabees Street, Al Awadi Building
Khetan
Al Wehda Pharmacy
Khetan, Main Street, Property of Ali Saleh
Jahra
Al Saada Pharmacy
Nugra, Al Othman Street, Abdul Aziz Al Nasar Building, Near Al Barrak Mosque

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Dragonet
Salmiya Hall Booked
Al Hamra Wild Force
Drive-In Arabic film
Al Firdous Arabic film
Carona Tera Desh Mein Fahashed open Jasrudgar

Fahashed Arabic film
Al Jabra Arabic film
Gransada Arabic film
Selabikhar Mukti
Jleeb Ghar Ghar Ki Kahani: Almadi Drive-In Arabic film

• All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22232) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab's Office in Shuaibah. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.16 am
Zuhr	11.42
Asr	3.10 pm
Maghreb	5.47
Isha	7.05

Farewell reception: Colleagues of Mohammed Arshad bid goodbye after a long acquaintance of nearly 15 years in Kuwait. Back in hometown, Lahore, they wish Arshad a prosperous life.

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Watercolour Painting

LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills, 8 week courses for Beginners and Advanced for details tel: 5618847.

Pottery and Crafts

Develop your child's creativity in pottery & crafts (8-12 yrs old). Also watercolour painting and jewellery making for adults. For details Tel: 5618847, 5317354, 9 am - 12 noon & 4 - 6.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Ahmadi Musical Society REHEARSALS for the 1989/90 season will start on Saturday 16th September, at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi. New singers welcome. For further details ring 3912384.

National Youth Centre
NOV 16: An annual get-together with five music from 'Stepping Stones' and 'Top-Ranks' having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 2426334, Mr Marian — 2416945.

Pakistan Arts Circle
A SERIES of programmes is being organised by the Pakistan Arts Circle, which includes mushairas, musical varieties, literary discussions, etc.

Families are most welcome. Please register your names on Tel. Nos. 5323693, 5717585 or 4716258.

Colva Nite
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact

Spoken Arabic

The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training is starting to offer spoken Arabic classes for non-native speakers. The programme, starting in October 89, is for beginners and having intermediate knowledge in colloquial conversation. The registration will start on 16th September, 1989. Those who are interested please contact on telephone Nos. 2413050 Ext. 243, 269, 2455860 Ext 454, 455, 457; 2411383 (Demis).

Vienna Boys Choir

The Vienna Boys Choir will be performing at the Kuwait International Hotel on 26th September at 8.00 pm in the Grand Ballroom. Tickets available at the Reception counter: 2530000/8040. KD8.00 for adults. KD5.00 for child under 12 years.

Breeze '89

OCT 26: Tivim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide soulstirring music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimiro or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

Filcheck chess

SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) invites all Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament".

Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racatz (2421868, 2402405, 2443961) or Jun (2409650).

British Council

Around the world with Willy Fog Wednesday, 20 September at 6 pm, Thursday 21 September at 10.30 am (52 min). This is a charming adaptation of Jules Verne's classic novel "Around the World in Eighty Days", with one major difference. All the characters are animals. Willy Fog, an elegant gentleman, offers a bet of half of his fortune that he can go around the world in 80 days. Accompanied by his French valet, Rigodon, and their small companion with a big heart, Tico, they set off in an incredible trip around the world.

Moods & Melody

"Moods & Melody" performs "Geet Maala" — a presentation of pop songs from Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu films — on 12th October 1989 at Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Finsaateen at 7.00 pm. For more details contact: Tel: 4338579 and 2407418, after 4.00 pm.

The first three winners in each division will receive valuable prizes from the sponsors. Interested participants are requested to contact VP Sarah Macarimbang the chairperson at 484347 and Rod Cerezo at 3433595, the co-ordinator.

All previous winners are requested to contact the chairperson for the rehearsal on the forthcoming Grand Final on October 20.

Free Tailoring Class

Kapisanang Pilipino sa Kuwait (Kapilk) will hold their free tailoring class to all bonafide Kapilk members beginning Friday, September 22 at Far East Restaurant from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. This self-improvement course is one of the many projects by Kapilk. The class will run every Friday and end on October 3. All materials needed for the class are given free to all participants. Master cutting, Barong Tagalog and executive suits will be covered in the course. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447.

D'Assissi Association

OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assissi ex-students along with their families and friends are invited. For further information, please contact: 244379 or 2469811.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam Al Dira with Perfect Strangers music. Children's programme at 5pm from 2-12 years to 12 years. Other programmes start with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainments under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tele: (res) 3331940 or 2413706 pm only.

HOTELS

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OL'R new Versailles menu: The Versailles Restaurant celebrates the new season with an exciting new la Carte menu featuring delicious new seafood dishes and always the great value business.

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La Brasserie: New menu at the La Brasserie ... definitely worth the wait. The new la Carte menu at the La Brasserie features a terrific choice of appetizer: entree and dessert. In addition to a lavish buffet with different starters various hot dishes and mouthwatering desserts. And remember the buffet changes daily for the guests.

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Every Thursday evening the jazz night: Tuck in the tempo ... experience an evening of the great jazz sound in jam session at the La Brasserie featuring delicious sea food buffet with that catch of the day freshness plus a range of local and international dishes.

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SALWA, House No. 196, Block No. 7, Nadeel Al Jabbat St. One room with kitchen facilities for a family or bachelor to share with an Indian family. Tele. 5745046, 5745064 Mr Akbar.

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MAHBOULA Latifa Complex 3 bedroom duplex apartments to let with or without furniture. Rent: KD550 pm, inclusive water and electricity. Tele. Mr McGerman, 5627641, 5627652, 8 am - 4 pm.

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FINTAS near the Co-operative Society. Accommodation in a 2-bedroom multi-habitation outside building with necessary facilities for 1 or 2 bachelors. Bus routes 102, 203, 105. Rent: KD40. Tele. 3902741, 6 - 10 pm.

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SALMIYA, near the garden. 2 bedroom spacious flat with carpet, curtains available from 1st October for a family or bachelors. Rent: KD120. Tele. 5613358.

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ABBASIYA, near the main road. Two bedroom flat fully furnished for 6 months, or sharing (with tele). Flat can be sold with household items: sofa-set, dining table, bedroom set oven and washing machine. Tele. 4311364.

(AT5-49443-3)

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(AT3-49396-3)

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SPORTS

Muster proves his point against Lendl

VIENNA, Sept. 19. (Reuters) World number one Ivan Lendl beat Austria's Thomas Muster 6-3 7-5 yesterday in a match that should have taken place six months ago.

Their exhibition contest marked Muster's comeback to the world tennis circuit after a freak accident last April that almost ended the Austrian's career.

Muster, 21, showed he had not lost the

impressive form that made him the first Australian to gain a place among the world's top 10 ranked players earlier this year.

After making Lendl work hard for his win on the artificial clay court of the Dusit Stadium, Muster said: "This was a great match and it proved a lot for me. It showed I'll be able to hold my own on the circuit again. I had a few problems but I'll sort them out in time."

Lendl, who was to travel with Muster to the Spanish Open in Barcelona today, said: "Thomas played well and I'm glad to see that he managed to recover so quickly from a really bad accident. You can see he's still a little rusty, but that will iron itself out."

Muster tore the ligaments of his left knee in an accident in Miami on April 1 after reaching the final of the \$21 million International Player

Championship in Key Biscayne, Florida, on which he was due to meet Lendl.

Muster was removing his tennis kit from the boot of his car when it was rammed head-on by another car.

Lendl said Muster had asked him to play the exhibition so he could discover if his intensive training had helped him recover his form following an operation in mid-April.

Seles fights back to edge past Bunge

DALLAS, Sept. 19. (Reuters) Fifth-seeded Monica Seles of Yugoslavia found her way to a 6-7 6-4 6-0 first round win over West German Bettina Bunge after wandering around in a daze in the first set at a \$250,000 tennis tournament here.

Top-seeded Martina Navratilova of the US and second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain both received first round 'byes' in the 28-player indoor tournament.

Anne Smith of the US served and volleyed her way past countrywoman Amy Frazer 6-4 6-3, and Shaun Stafford outlasted Gretchen Magers 2-6 7-5 6-3 in another all-American first round contest.

Seles, 10th in the world, blasted her way to a 3-1 first set lead with her two-handed groundstrokes but Bunge battled back with well-placed approach shots and accurate volleying.

Bunge swept the tiebreak, hitting every shot from a second serve ace to a let card volley winner, as Seles admitted that she totally lost her concentration.

"In the tiebreak I didn't know the score. I was just losing it," said Seles. "If I wouldn't have won the first game of the second set, I don't think I would have won the match."

Bunge, who was out with a knee injury from November 1987 to July 1989, had Seles on the ropes at 4-4 in the second set after the two traded service breaks, but the West German said that she ran out of energy.

"I thought if I could break to get to 5-4, then maybe I could win the match. I never got another game after that," said Bunge. "My mind just completely went and physically, I couldn't keep up."

Uruguay on course for Cup finals

URUGUAY are on course for their ninth World Cup soccer finals after beating upstairs Bolivia.

They are looking ahead with confidence to a last South American Group One qualifying match at home that they must win against a poor Peruvian side on Sunday.

Paraguay, meanwhile, must beat Ecuador on the same day if they are to qualify for a playoff with Israel, the Oceanian group winners, at the expense of Colombia.

Brazil, who have never missed the World Cup finals, have already booked their passage to Italy along with Argentina, who qualified automatically as holders.

Uruguay must beat Peru at Montevideo's Centenario stadium, site of their first World Cup triumph in 1930, to win their group on goal difference from Bolivia, who have six points to Uruguay's four.

Goals by European-based stars Enzo Francescoli and Ruben Sosa gave the twice world champions revenge over underdog Bolivia, who had beaten them with a 2-1 victory at high altitude in La Paz earlier in their Group One programme.

Peru, whose national team were decimated by the Alzina air tragedy last year, have lost all three of their matches.

Uruguay, who along with club sides Penarol and Nacional have enjoyed considerable success at international level of late, are anxious to make amends in Italy for a disappointing World Cup performance in Mexico in 1986.

Colombia, currently one of South America's more attractive sides, came from behind to beat Paraguay 2-1 at home in their last match and go top of Group Two with five points, one more than Paraguay, and a better goal difference.

Arnoldo Ignaran, scoring his fourth goal of the qualifying rounds, and Ruben Diaz Hernandez did the damage after Alfredo Mendoza had put the Paraguayans in the lead.

But Colombia will not be involved in the decisive match on Sunday when Ecuador, who have picked up only one point in three matches, receive Paraguay in Guayaquil.

Paraguay are hoping to reach their second consecutive World Cup finals and third overall, while Colombia are looking to get to their first since 1962 in Chile.

Imperial fans who love football as an entertainment would probably prefer to see Colombia go through with their flamboyant goalkeepers Rene Higuita, who often comes a long way off his goal-line to play an effective double role as sweeper.

But Israel stand in the way of the Group Two winners, whom they will face away on October 29 and at home on November 12 for one place in the finals in Italy.

Cahill upsets seed

Courier slams women officials

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 19, (Reuters)

Van Rensburg missed a return. Van Rensburg seemed demoralized in the third set and received a warning for racket abuse in the fifth game as frustration set in. The South African's serve remained erratic and Cahill kept the ball in play to lead 5-1. Van Rensburg then delivered his



Cahill moves into 2nd round

16th and 17th double-faults and gave Cahill the match on a volley error.

"It was weird out there," Van Rensburg said. "I served a few doubles. It happens to anyone. Obviously he played a lot better in the third set."

"I was extremely lucky."

Cahill said: "At first I didn't feel I belonged on the court. But at 30-0, 5-3, he started to have trouble with his serve. It's one of those things I'll probably never do again."

Meanwhile, Floridian Jim Courier lashed out at the women officiating his match with Pieter Aldrich of South Africa, who defeated him 4-6, 6-3 6-1.

He complained about calls made by a line official and umpire Joan Vrombrom.

"I have a big problem with women officiating because I don't think their reflexes are the best to catch men's shots," said Courier, who is ranked 36th and got to the fourth round at the French Open. "In my experience, women don't call the lines right. Call me a male chauvinist. Unfortunately, it all happened against me on the big points. It was very disappointing."

In other matches, Ronald Agnew of Haiti defeated Keiji Everenden of New Zealand 7-6, 6-4 and Anders Jarryd of Sweden eliminated Richey Renbargs 6-2.

Scott Davis defeated Canadian Glenn Michaliza 6-2, 6-2 and Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia defeated Jim Pugh 6-2, 6-7, 6-2.

Swiss team hit by injuries

NEUCHATEL, Switzerland, Sept. 19. (Reuters) Switzerland's national soccer coach Uli Stielike has been dogged by injury problems ahead of the World Cup qualifying tie against Portugal tomorrow.

The West German former World Cup star watched Belgium thrash Portugal 3-0 in Brussels two weeks ago to remain top of the group with 10 points from six games and unbeaten.

He was not impressed by the Portuguese defense.

"Two of Belgium's goals came from cross defensive errors," he said.

In spite of Switzerland's lowly fourth place in the five-nation group with two points from four games, Stielike remains optimistic that his charges still have an outside chance of reaching next year's finals in Italy.

"Belgium are virtually through. But the second spot is

still wide open," he said. "Switzerland could qualify if they win the next four games, with home advantage in three of them."

Portuguese coach Julio 'Juca' Cernadas, under pressure after his team's recent lackluster performances, said: "Despite losing to Belgium we can still win a qualifying place. But we will have to get at least a point in Switzerland."

Boavista's Frederico, who missed the Belgium tie through injury, looks set to return to strengthen the fragile defense, while experienced midfielder Adelino Nunes could be recalled.

Juca also looks likely to field star exiles Rui Barros of Juventus and Atletico Madrid's Paulo Futre in search of an early goal.

"We are not going to stick to a heavy defensive line-up," he said.

Stielike's 35, faces his first real test since the surprise 1-0 home win against Brazil in a friendly in June, a month after he replaced the sacked Daniel Jeandupeux.

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Shilton goes past another landmark

LONDON, Sept. 19, (AP) Peter Shilton got up yesterday, trained for two hours, slept a little, ate dinner, watched television and prepared for an early night.

No matter that the same day, England's national soccer goalkeeper turned 40, passing another landmark in a remarkable career spanning two decades between the posts.

"No celebrations as far as I know," said Arthur Cox, manager of Shilton's team, Derby County. "We've got a game tomorrow and for Peter, that means in bed by 10 pm for him, the job comes first."

With 110 appearances for England — 59 of them shutouts — Shilton is only nine behind the world record number of games for national team goalies, set by Pat Jennings.

Jennings, the former Northern Ireland keeper, retired on his 41st birthday when he played his 119th game against Brazil during the 1986 World Cup.

Dino Zoff, the former Italian team captain, kept goal for his country 112 times between 1968 and 1983 and went to four World Cup finals. Lev Yashin, the legendary Soviet goalkeeper, was into his 40s when he retired in 1971.

But Shilton is poised to surpass them all. And with the England goalie showing no signs of old age, Jennings' record looks increasingly frail.

"I feel as if I can go on for a long time yet barring injuries," Shilton, a national institution with a record 870 English League appearances, said in an interview with Britain's Today newspaper.

"I know a lot of people have drawn attention to the fact that I'm 40 but really it doesn't mean anything to me."

Vicini has kept changes in the squad who won six of their eight international friendlies last season to a bare minimum.

Star striker Gianluca Vialli is on top form and is likely to be joined in attack by Sampdoria team mate Roberto Mancini and Napoli's Andrea Carnevale for the match in the north-east city of Cesena.

Vicini has strengthened the midfield, bringing in Fiorentina's Roberto Baggio, the League's top goal scorer, in place of injured AC Milan stalwart Roberto Donadoni, and recalling Napoli's Massimo Crappa.

Giancarlo Marocchi will replace injured Inter defender Nicola Berti.

Bulgaria will be without key striker Nakso Sirakov, who is needed for a Spanish Cup match with his new club Real Zaragoza. Defender Emile Dimitrov and midfielder Kalin Bankov have been called up for the first time.

Teams:

Italy (probable) — Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Paolo Maldini, Fernando de Napoli, Riccardo Ferri, Franco Baresi, Giancarlo Marocchi, Roberto Baggio, Giuseppe Giannini, Andrea Carnevale, Gianluca Vialli.

Bulgaria (from) — Iliya Valov, Emil Dimitrov, Dimitar Vsev, Pavel Dochev, Trifon Ivanov, Kalin Bankov, Plamen Pentkov, Plamen Simoneonov, Krasimir Balakov, Georgi Yordanov, Nikolai Todorov, Khristo Stoichkov, Luboslav Penev, Emil Kostadinov, Nikola Iliev.

Italy meet Bulgaria in soccer friendly

CESENA, Italy, Sept. 19. (Reuters) World Cup hosts Italy open their international season in a friendly against Bulgaria tomorrow with a squad plagued by injury and an unusually busy domestic and European programmes.

Italy have a place by rights in the 1990 World Cup finals next summer but with seven Italian teams in Europe and the telescoping of domestic League and Cup competitions, their top players are already tiring under the unaccustomed demands of twice-a-week soccer.

On paper the friendly against Bulgaria is probably the easiest of Italy's eight pre-1990 internationals which include games against Brazil, the Netherlands and World Cup holders Argentina.

But national team manager Azzeglio Vicini said the tie could prove dangerous for Italy.

"At the start of the season there are always little problems and difficulties. Besides I expect this to be a season of ups and downs because no-one can be at their best for nine months when they are playing both on Wednesdays and Sundays," he said.

Bulgaria, who have failed to qualify for the 1990 finals, face pressures of a different sort. Manager Ivan Vutsov is making his comeback after an absence of almost three years during which his two successors at the helm failed to halt the national side's decline.

"I hope the match against Italy, three times World Cup winners, will be the best preparation for a new concept in Bulgarian football," Vutsov said.

Vicini has kept changes in the squad who won six of their eight international friendlies last season to a bare minimum.

Star striker Gianluca Vialli is on top form and is likely to be joined in attack by Sampdoria team mate Roberto Mancini and Napoli's Andrea Carnevale for the match in the north-east city of Cesena.

Vicini has strengthened the midfield, bringing in Fiorentina's Roberto Baggio, the League's top goal scorer, in place of injured AC Milan stalwart Roberto Donadoni, and recalling Napoli's Massimo Crappa.

Giancarlo Marocchi will replace injured Inter defender Nicola Berti.

Bulgaria will be without key striker Nakso Sirakov, who is needed for a Spanish Cup match with his new club Real Zaragoza. Defender Emile Dimitrov and midfielder Kalin Bankov have been called up for the first time.

Teams:

Italy (probable) — Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Paolo Maldini, Fernando de Napoli, Riccardo Ferri, Franco Baresi, Giancarlo Marocchi, Roberto Baggio, Giuseppe Giannini, Andrea Carnevale, Gianluca Vialli.

Bulgaria (from) — Iliya Valov, Emil Dimitrov, Dimitar Vsev, Pavel Dochev, Trifon Ivanov, Kalin Bankov, Plamen Pentkov, Plamen Simoneonov, Krasimir Balakov, Georgi Yordanov, Nikolai Todorov, Khristo Stoichkov, Luboslav Penev, Emil Kostadinov, Nikola Iliev.



Elway runs for 31 yards.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Mailem Open

THE Al Mailem Open Cricket Tournament, organised by the Young Men's Cultural Association (YMCA), will be held in the second week of Oct at the Riqqa ground. Only 12 teams will be allowed to take part in the tourney, which is open to all teams except players who have already registered with teams playing at the Ahmadi KOC ground. For further details contact Joe D'sa (3981790) or Freddy Fernandes (3924393) between 5 pm and 6 pm.

Asian volleyball

SEOUL, Sept 19. (Reuters): Results at the fifth Asian Men's Volleyball Championship today. Iraq beat Bahrain 3-1 (15-11 15-13 15-17 15-13); South Korea beat Nepal 3-0 (15-0 15-3 15-2); Pakistan beat Bangladesh 3-0 (15-9 15-15 15-3); United Arab Emirates beat New Zealand 3-1 (2-15 5-15-8 15-9); China beat Iran 3-1 (15-11 15-13 15-10); Taiwan beat Australia 3-0 (15-8 15-10 15-4); Kuwait beat Hong Kong 3-0 (15-5 15-2 15-5).

World bridge

PERTH, Australia, Sept 19. (Reuters): Brazil rebounded from European champions Poland in the Bermuda Bowl World Bridge Championship semifinals today, improving their overnight score to lead by 237 points to 180. In the other semifinal, defending champions the United States almost doubled the 54-point margin they gained over Australia yesterday. Leading by 252-154, they seem unlikely to be overtaken in the 64 boards remaining.

100 injured

CHITTAGONG, Bangladesh, Sept 19. (Reuters): Supporters of rival soccer teams hurled homemade bombs packed with metal fragments during a match yesterday and nearly 100 people were injured, police said.

Brazil manager

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 19. (Reuters): Football association president Ricardo Teixeira yesterday named Sebastiao Lazaroni to manage Brazil in next year's World Cup soccer finals in Italy.

McKinney cleared

LAS VEGAS, Sept 19. (AP): Olympic boxing gold medalist Kennedy McKinney will not be charged in an incident last week involving a teenage girl, authorities said yesterday.

League Cup

LONDON, Sept 19. (Reuters): Result of an English Football League Cup, second-round first-leg match yesterday: Port Vale 1, Wimbledon 2.

W.Indies bowler

LONDON, Sept 19. (Reuters): West Indies fast bowler Malcolm Marshall is to leave his adopted county Hampshire at the end of the 1990 English cricket season.

World record

ATHENS, Sept 19. (Reuters): Israeli Milutin of the Soviet Union set a world snatch record of 160.0 kilograms in the lightweight (67.5 kg) division at the World Weightlifting Championships yesterday.

More details

LONDON, Sept 19. (Reuters): Jockey Club officials inquiring into the events at Doncaster which led to the English St Leger being postponed last Saturday are seeking more details before deciding what action to take.

Legal action

BORDEAUX, France, Sept 19. (Reuters): Montpellier soccer coach Aimé Jacquet has started legal action against his former club Bordeaux, alleging non-payment of redundancy money since he was fired in February.

Asylum sought

ANKARA, Sept 19. (Reuters): Champion Soviet weightlifter Hafiz Suleymanov sought asylum at the Turkish embassy in Athens today, a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

First players

MIAMI, Sept 19. (Reuters): Steff Graf and Martina Navratilova became the first players to qualify for the women's Championship at Madison Square Garden next month, according to a points list listed yesterday by the Women's International Tennis Association.

Baseball results

NEW YORK, Sept 19. (Reuters): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday:

National League			
Pittsburgh	6	Philadelphia	2
Chicago	10	New York	6
St Louis	3	Montreal	2
American League			
Oakland	4	Boston	2
Boston	6	Toronto	2
California	6	Minnesota	3
Chicago	4	Kansas City	2
Texas	5	Seattle	2

Shuaib wants to play in championships

THE Kuwait national basketball team yesterday started its preparations for the Peace and Friendship Championships, scheduled to be held in Kuwait from Oct 30.

Kuwait's basketball federation has selected 18 players for the training session being held at the Jabiya Secondary School for Boys.

The Kuwait team will be strengthened by the return of former captain and top basketball player Abdul Salam Shuaib, who is only making the comeback in order to play in the championships.

Shuaib said that it would be an honour for him to play in the championships, that were launched on the initiative of HH the Amir. He added that he had earlier decided to quit the game for a number of reasons, but he now felt that players should be ready to make sacrifices for their country.

He said that he was optimistic of Kuwait's chances in the championships as the present team was based on players ready to put in their best. Shuaib added that this team had proved its worth in the recently concluded Saddam Hussein Basketball Championships in Baghdad.

Meanwhile the chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Kuwait Football Association and the Olympic Council of Asia, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, received at this office the head of the Chinese football team on the occasion of their visit to Kuwait. Sheikh Fahd praised the Chinese for sending their team to Kuwait to help the home team to prepare for the championships.

In a related development, the former head of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Sheikh Salman Al Hmoud, praised the initiative of HH the Amir in organising the championships in his capacity as the chairman of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

He called on the government and all the people living in Kuwait to help make this event a success. He added that these championships would be a test for Kuwait in organising sports events of such magnitude.

Lewis suffers shock defeat

Aouita scores easy 1,500m victory



Aouita: beat Sahere and Ovett

NEW DELHI, Sept 19. (Reuters): Carl Lewis of the United States crashed to a stunning defeat against little-known Austrian Andreas Berger in his last 100 metres race of the season at the Nehru Centenary International Meeting today.

Berger raced to victory in 10.37 seconds with Lewis second in 10.47, one hundredth of a second ahead of Britain's John Regis.

"You win some, you lose some," said Lewis afterwards. "It's the last race of the season — I'll take some time off and forget it."

Lewis appeared unsettled after causing a false start, complaining that the public announcement system was disturbing his concentration and sending him new blocks.

Unlike Berger, who led almost from the first stride, Lewis got away slowly and could not catch the Austrian, with Regis closing rapidly in third place.

Berger danced in delight, knowing he had won the tight finish. "I didn't expect this kind of race. This is the first time I have ever competed against him," the stunned Austrian said.

Morocco's Said Aouita, the world's dominating middle-distance runner, finished his season in familiar style by winning the 1,500 metres comfortably.

He cruised away over the last 220 metres from fading fellow countryman Aziz Sahere, who held off Britain's Steve Ovett to take second place.

"I could have done better but for the heat and humidity," Aouita said.

Britain's Steve Backley, one of the season's major discoveries, also ended on a winning note, winning the javelin with a throw of 78.68 metres, well below his best in a low-class field that provided no challenge.

Elegant Jamaican Grace Jackson had a relatively comfortable win by half a second over former world record holder Evelyn Ashford of the United States in the women's 200 metres.

Lewis said today he will probably run for three more years before retiring from international competition.

"I enjoy running very much. It is a part of me that started when I was seven and since then that part has not left me," added Lewis.

Results

Women's 3,000 metres:
1. Nicki Morris (Britain) nine minutes 27.93 seconds; 2. Angela Tooby (Britain) 9:28.28; 3. Susan Tooby (Britain) 9:31.18.
110 metres hurdles:
Race one:
1. Tonie Campbell (US) 13.44; 2.

Cleusa Clark (US) 13.89; 3. Tony Jarrett (Britain) 14.79.

Race two:
1. Greg Foster (US) 13.52; 2. Robert Reading (US) 13.76; 3. Praveen Jolly (India) 14.56.

Men's shot:
1. Kalman Konja (West Germany) 19.62 metres; 2. Zlatan Saracevic (Yugoslavia) 19.35; 3. Balwinder Singh (India) 17.94.

Men's 1,500 metres:
1. Said Aouita (Morocco) 3:40.29; 2. Aziz Sahere (Morocco) 3:40.99; 3. Steve Ovett (Britain) 3:40.99.

Men's javelin:
1. Steve Backley (Britain) 78.68 metres; 2. Justin Arap (India) 68.62; 3. S.B. Mishra (India) 64.84.

Women's long jump:
1. Agape Karczmarcz (Poland) 6.33; 2. Inessa Kravets (Soviet Union) 6.19; 3. Reeth Abraham (India) 6.05.

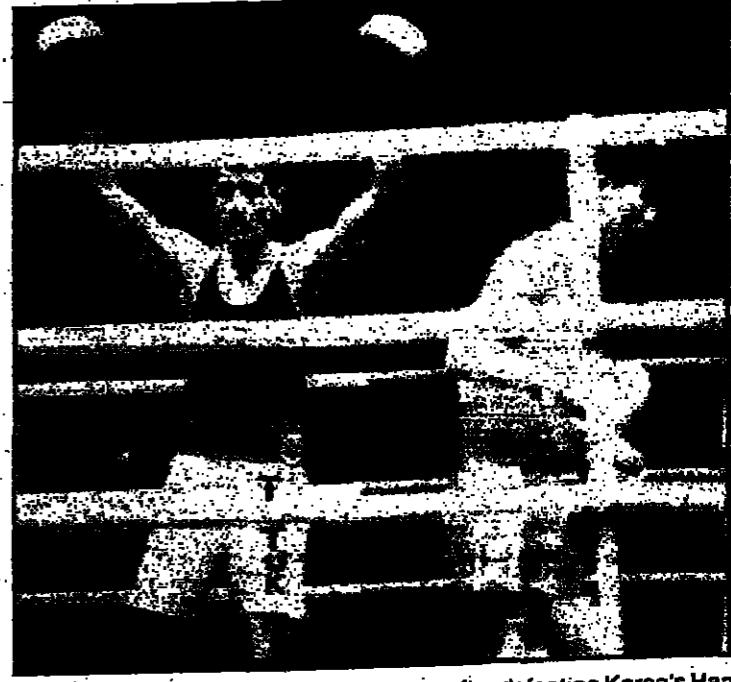
Men's 100 metres:
1. Andreas Berger (Austria) 10.37 seconds; 2. Carl Lewis (US) 10.47; 3. John Regis (Britain) 10.48.

Women's 200 metres:
1. Grace Jackson (Jamaica) 22.72; 2. Evelyn Ashford (US) 23.22; 3. Jennifer Stoote (Britain) 23.28.

Men's 3,000 metres steeplechase:
1. Julius Karukuri (Kenya) eight minutes 33.13 seconds; 2. Bela Vago (Hungary) 8:37.47; 3. David Baptiste (Britain) 8:44.81.

Women's discus:
1. Connie Price (US) 56.78 metres; 2. Neelam Kumar (India) 42.38; 3. Harpreet Kaur (India) 42.14.

Men's long jump:
1. Tony Harrison (US) 7.90 metres; 2. Csaba Antal (Hungary) 7.71 metres; 3. P.V. Wilson (India) 7.51 metres.



Turkey's Tutuk Vedat (left) raises his arms after defeating Korea's Han Kwang Hyung. (Reuter wirephoto)

Amateur boxing starts with scoring computer

MOSCOW, Sept 19. (AP): The fourth session of First World Amateur Boxing Championships to use a computerised scoring system opened today without benefit of a computer.

Because of a malfunction of the computer, the opening 57 kilogramme bout between Kirkor Kirkorov of Bulgaria and Feyzullah Aydas of Turkey was judged on the basis of punches thrown in a round, with 20 points going to the winner of a round and 19 or less to the loser.

Kirkorov won a decision, but the judging breakdown was not announced.

The computer system is based not on the number of punches landed, but on the number of significant punches landed. If at least three of the five judges push a button within a second of what they consider an effective punch, it is recorded as a point by the computer.

Body punches, tapping-type punches and jabs thrown while going backward apparently are considered insignificant punches.

Computer scoring resumed for the second bout, a 57 kilogramme match between Sandro Cesaroni of Italy and Hoos Lee of South Korea, but the bout was underway before three judges became aware that they were to use their electronic devices.

European champion Casamona scored with several sharp head blows and own a 27-14 decision.

Djamel Lifa of France followed with a 27-21 battering of Saoud Al Mowaihi of Kuwait, and Jorgen Heidereich, a member of the strong East Germany team, battered Uday Awyan Wahdan of Palestine into defeat in the second round of 58 kilogramme bouts.

Asian fighters appeared in the next three matches and lost all of them.

Arnaldo Meia of Cuba peppered Yutaka Hayashiba of Japan with head blows and stopped him in the first round match of 57 kilograms.

The other two Asian losses were in the 67 kilogramme class.

Alfred Addo Ankomah was beaten when Altansukh of Mongolia was not allowed to continue because of a bad cut over his right eye in the third round.

Roberto Wein of Sweden rallied after a poor first round for a 21-19 verdict over Hiroshi Nagashita of Japan.

Jansher routs Spaniard

Benham wins golf opener

THE Hunting and Equestrian Golf Club opened its 1989-1990 season with a 12-hole medal competition on Friday. Despite the warm weather, twenty-two competitors turned out to contest the prizes.

The winner with a net 43 was club vice-captain Peter Benham (14) by one stroke from Korean new comer Nam. Tony Jashammon won the best gross of the day with 53. Geoff Grey had his tee-shot settle four feet from the flag to win nearest the pin contest on the par 3 fifth, while Peter Van Thiel blasted his tee shot 255 yards into a head wind to win the longest drive on the tough par 4 seventeenth.

The previous Friday summer competition was concluded with Geoff Dean winning the championship with a best 3-round aggregate of 135 and in joint second place was Anwar Siddique and Peter Van Thiel with 142.

On Friday Sept 22 H&E will hold a 12-hole Stableford competition. Full 18-hole competition commences on Friday 29th with the September Captain Vijay Pierce medal.

Renee Joseph reaches final

RENEE JOSEPH moved into the final of the men's singles in the Indian Arts Circle (IAC) Badminton Tournament on Monday evening with an easy victory over Siva Kumar.

Joseph faced no difficulty as he gave away only six points in the first set and two more in the second for a 15-6 15-8 victory.

In the men's doubles, Reji Joseph and Cherry George entered the finals with a 15-3 15-5 victory over Philip Cherian and Bijoy M. The first set was no indicator of the real strength of the teams as Joseph and Cherry George mercilessly crushed their opponents in the second and third sets after losing the first.

The ladies singles saw Gina Anthony beat Asha Kutty to reach the finale and set up a match against Reny John, who

also scored an easy 11-2 11-0 victory over Anju Abraham.

The ladies doubles turned out to a tough match with Reny John and Nirmala Nair putting up a tough fight before going down 15-7 15-13 to Suja Vergheese and Remy Tharhan.

Today's matches (all final): Mixed doubles — Reny John and John Kurian will meet Gina Anthony and Bijoy M. or Shobha Nair and Philip Cherian (8.00 pm). Veterans singles — Bal Sharma vs M.M. Joshi (9.00 pm). Junior boys singles — Suresh Ramachandran vs Geku George (8.30 pm) and Junior girls singles — Simi Mathew vs Anju Abraham (7.30 pm).

Details of prize-winners:

Prize No.	Prize	Card No.	Value
1	Video with TV, Fungi	108365	31
2	Refrigerator (Fridges)	122571	32
3	Cash prize of KD 50/-	43705	33
4	Cash prize of KD 50/-	152585	34